

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website:www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Swing State

AMERICAN JOBS ACT



In Ohio, Obama emphasizes school upgrades, jobs bill

President Barack Obama delivers remarks at Fort Hayes Arts and Academic High School in Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 13, 2011. The day after proposing the use of tax hikes to pay for his new jobs plan, Obama visited the high school and promoted a \$25 billion spending initiative for school improvements.

(Doug Mills/ The New York Times)

HELENE COOPER

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News Service

COLUMBUS, Ohio – President Barack Obama took his jobs sales pitch to a high school in this politically crucial swing state Tuesday, challenging Congress to act swiftly on his \$447 billion proposal of tax cuts and stimulus projects to buck up the economy.

In a high-octane performance that came with all the bells and whistles of a campaign event – right down to U2's "City of Blinding Lights" blaring across the field – Obama said the \$25 billion for education construction and improvements in the plan would

achieve two goals at once: modernizing U.S. schools and putting construction workers back on the job.

But even as Obama was cranking up his call to action ("Pass this bill" has turned into an audience chant a la "Yes we can"), he was also indicating that he is willing to take piece-meal passage of the bill after Republicans and some Democrats suggested that Congress would not adopt the proposal intact. The White House press secretary, Jay Carney, told reporters aboard Air Force One that if Congress broke off elements of the bill to pass, Obama would sign those portions into law, and then go back to pushing for

the rest. But, Carney added, "Congress will have a lot of explaining to do" if by the end of the year lawmakers have not moved to aggressively boost job growth. Democratic advisers to Obama say that they plan to compete ferociously for the electoral votes of Ohio, which the president won in 2008. Republicans are already complaining that Obama's jobs tour is more about the election than about jobs.

"After calling a joint session of Congress to propose yet a second stimulus of failed policies, the president is hitting the road this week in a political attempt to sell his package of old ideas," The Republican National

Committee chairman, Reince Priebus, said in a statement. "But unsurprisingly, he's only stopping in major 2012 battleground states." Obama will be traveling to North Carolina State University in Raleigh on Wednesday, visiting a state he somewhat improbably won in 2008 and his political advisers hope he can keep next year.

In Columbus, Obama told the friendly crowd of students and political supporters to "call and email and tweet and fax and visit and tell your congresspersons that the time for gridlock and games is over and the time for action is now."

He made his remarks at the Fort Hayes Art and Aca-

demic High School, which has recently benefited from federal funding to renovate. "There are construction projects like this all over the country just waiting to get started," Obama said. "So my question to Congress is, 'What on earth are you waiting for?'" He stood near a giant banner that looked like one of the "change" campaign banners from 2008, except this one said "American Jobs Act." The crowd of more than 3,000 people at the school acted like they were at a campaign event, too. They chanted: "Pass this bill! Pass this bill! Pass this bill!"

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In Ohio, Obama emphasizes school upgrades, jobs bill

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White House officials said the \$25 billion, if approved by lawmakers, would help at least 35,000 public schools. The investment would make rural schools a priority, as well as schools financed through the Bureau of Indian Education. The money, White House officials said, could be used for tasks such as repairs or technology upgrades. But Republicans continued to dump cold water on the proposal.

"It's great to talk about schools," said Kevin DeWine, the chairman of the Ohio Republican Party, in a conference call with reporters Tuesday morning. But, he added, "I'm not willing to say that just because the president pulls \$25 billion out of thin air, that's something that members of Congress should blindly support."

Meanwhile, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-

Nev., said he did not "know exactly what I'm going to do yet with the president's

jobs bill, but we're going to have a full caucus meeting on it on Thursday."

For Obama, the trip to Ohio was an incursion into the home state of the man

with whom he will be fencing, House Speaker John A. Boehner, as he tries to push his jobs plan.

But it was also more than that; Tuesday's trip represented one of what promises to be many visits to swing states as the White House tries to sell Obama's proposals to the American people while at the same time protecting Obama from a backlash from voters if the plan fails in Congress. By pushing so hard, Obama will be able to point to his own efforts while seeking to tag the Republicans with a "do nothing" label, an administration official said. Whether this plan will work remains in doubt, but some Republicans – even while pledging to oppose the bill – have at least adopted a more moderate tone. Gov. John Kasich, a Republican, was not in town for Obama's visit, but he has notably declined to pour criticism on the plan. □



Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), center, waits as Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) speaks to reporters about his party's sentiment towards President Barack Obama's plans to spur job creation at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, on Sept. 13, 2011. The day after proposing the use of tax hikes to pay for his new jobs plan, Obama visited Columbus, Ohio, to promote a \$25 billion spending initiative for school improvements.

(Philip Scott Andrews/The New York Times)

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Motorcyclist: Life saved by heroes who lifted car

JENNIFER DOBNER

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (AP)

— The university math students heard the crash, saw the smoke and knew they had to act quickly. A motorcyclist had just collided with a car and was pinned beneath the flaming, twisted metal wreckage.

Disregarding their own safety, they rushed to the street and lined up with more than half a dozen others on one side of the car. Within moments, they managed to lift the roughly 4,000-pound (1,800-kilogram) car just high enough for one rescuer to pull Brandon Wright to safety.

"The danger? I didn't think about it for a minute," said James Odei, 35, a doctoral candidate from Ghana who is studying statistics. "All I wanted to do was grab that car and raise it." For their actions, the rescuers are being called "heroes" and "angels" — their few minutes of heroism were captured on video that has gone viral on the Internet. The man they saved — the 21-year-old Utah State University student — is grateful.

"I'm just very thankful for everyone that helped me out," Wright told The Associated Press by telephone from his hospital bed. "They saved my life."

Had none of the rescuers acted, "you can only speculate what the outcome would have been," Assistant Logan Police Chief Jeff Curtis said. "Every one of those people put their lives in danger."

That may be true, but none who came to Wright's aid want to be labeled a hero. "That's a big title," said Abbass Sharif, 28, another doctoral candidate who is from Lebanon. "I don't consider myself a hero. It's just our humanity ... Everyone is going to help."

At a hospital news conference on Tuesday, Wright's uncle, Tyler Riggs, recounted what Wright told his family about Monday's accident. The crash happened near Utah State University in Logan, roughly 90 miles (145 kilometers) north

Some of the rescuers are wearing construction helmets and safety vests, others sport school backpacks and at least one police officer is in the crowd. Some quickly place their hands on the car and start to rock it, while others lift from the

ing to be low, like 20 percent, compared to 100 percent."

Riggs said Wright remembered details from the crash and told his family that he felt scared and could see and feel the flames. "He remembers

Riggs said Wright has not seen the video of the rescue.

Despite not wearing a helmet, Riggs said, Wright had suffered no head trauma. Wright does have two broken legs, a broken pelvis, road rash, burns on his left foot and abrasions to his forehead. The hospital said Wright was in satisfactory condition.

The driver of the BMW, John Johnson, had minor injuries. Johnson, a USU business school official, did not respond to email and phone messages seeking comment. Rescuer Matt Barney, a radiation therapist who works with cancer patients, said Johnson appeared to be in shock after the accident. "He was really worried about the safety of the young man," Barney said at a police news conference. "He was very emotional and shaken."

Curtis said he didn't know whether any citations would be issued or charges filed. Wright's family, however, is grateful to the "angels who came to his aid," Riggs said. "They risked their lives doing it," he said. "It restores your faith in humanity." □



Logan City Police Assistant Chief Jeff Curtis, at podium, discusses Monday's motorcycle accident and rescue in front of rescue participants, from left, Matt Barney, Thomas Timkin, Abbass Al Sharif, James Odei and Anvar Suyundikov during a news conference in Logan, Utah, Tuesday, Sept. 13 2011. Authorities said Wright, 21, was riding his motorcycle Monday near the Utah State University campus in Logan when he collided with a black BMW that was pulling out of a parking lot. Tire and skid marks on the highway indicate that Wright laid the bike down and slid along the road before colliding with the car, Assistant Police Chief Jeff Curtis said. The bike hit the car's hood and bounced to the ground, while Wright, who was not wearing helmet, slid under the car and then both vehicles burst into flames, Curtis said. Wright was trapped beneath the burning car. A group of about 10 men and women rushed to help, lifting the car up to free him and pull him to safety.

(AP Photo/The Herald Journal, Eli Lucero)

of Salt Lake City. Wright was headed to study at a computer lab, Riggs said. A BMW was pulling out of a parking lot.

Tire and skid marks on the highway showed that Wright laid the bike down and slid along the road before colliding with the car, Curtis said.

Riggs said Wright tried to protect himself by laying his bike down. The bike hit the car's hood and bounced to the ground, while Wright, who was not wearing a helmet, slid under the car and then both vehicles burst into flames, Curtis said.

The video, shot by university staffer Chris Garff who had seen the smoke, shows a crowd gathering around the burning wreckage as flames shoot into the air.

bottom until the car tilts up. Once the car is on its wheels, a construction worker in a hardhat and a lime green T-shirt can be seen dragging a spread-eagled Wright from under the car. Two officers then move in with a fire extinguisher. A few minutes pass before paramedics start to provide Wright with medical care. It's unclear whether they had just arrived or whether they were waiting for the scene to be declared safe.

Sharif said he can't remember if the car felt hot or heavy, just that something needed to be done.

"The chance of him dying if we don't do it is like 100 percent," he said. "If you weigh the chance of you being in danger, that's go-

ing under the car, spitting up blood and not being able to talk," Riggs said.

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Poverty level near 20-year high

JEANNIE KEVER

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The number of Americans living in poverty last year reached its highest level in almost 20 years, as unemployment remained stubbornly high and median household income continued to drop.

Data released by the Census Bureau on Tuesday offered more evidence that, although the recession was declared officially over in mid-2009, many families have yet to recover.

Fewer people had health insurance in 2010, with the highest rate of the uninsured in Texas.

More young adults still lived with their parents, and the number of people who didn't work at all was higher than the year before.

"None of that is surprising," said Brian Greene, president of the Houston Food Bank. "I can guarantee you 2011 will be worse."

More detailed local figures will be released next week, but the preliminary information shows incomes dropped everywhere in the United States except the



Northeast.

Census Bureau director Robert Groves said the data provides a more personal view of Americans' economic lives.

It arrives as President Barack Obama is running for re-election amid uncertain prospects for his latest proposal to create jobs. Republicans, and some

Democrats, are wary of new spending. And Texas Democrats are still smarting from a legislative session that ended with steep cuts in education, health and social services.

"We can do better than this," said state Rep. Mike Villarreal, D-San Antonio, citing the figures as evidence that the state should restore cuts to public education.

Job is no guaranty
The percentage of Americans living in poverty rose for the third year in a row, up to 15.1 percent, the highest level since 1993. □

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Man's phone used to call terror suspect

GENE JOHNSON

Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — A man who tried to run two U.S. Marine sergeants off Interstate 5 in July had apparently been in contact with a suspect in a Seattle terrorism plot that had been foiled weeks earlier, prosecutors said Tuesday. Michael D. McCright, 28, was charged Tuesday with second-degree assault after a car swerved at a government-owned sedan on July 12.

He was ordered held on \$2 million bail.

The Marines had just left a military recruiting station in South Seattle that was the target of what authorities said was a foiled terror plot by Abu Khalid Abdul-Latif of Seattle and Walli Mujahidh of Los Angeles.

The men were arrested in a sting operation in late June after they arrived at a warehouse garage to pick up machine guns to use in the attack, authorities said. "Investigators have confirmed that the cell phone used by the defendant, Michael McCright, was used on at least three occasions to contact Abdul-Latif prior to Latif's arrest by federal authorities," King County

deputy prosecutor Gary Ernsdorff wrote in documents seeking the high bail amount.

"The FBI is continuing to investigate defendant McCright's possible connection to domestic terrorism." McCright, of Lynnwood, has prior convictions for robbery, assault and burglary, and could face life in prison without release as a three-strikes offender if convicted, Ernsdorff said. He wrote that McCright also uses the name Mikhial Jihad.

McCright has not been charged with any terrorism offense, and the prosecutor's office said it was not aware if he had obtained a lawyer.

Seattle police Detective Len Carver III wrote in a probable cause statement that McCright, driving a blue Geo Metro, pulled along the passenger side of the sedan, which had government plates, shortly before 5 p.m. on I-5 in North Seattle. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Ryan Picklesimer, who was in uniform, was driving, and Gunnery Sgt. Thomas Lopez was in the passenger's seat. □



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In Woodstock, values collide over housing

PETER APPLEBOME

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WOODSTOCK, N.Y. — If they had decided to pave paradise and put up a parking lot, the issues might have seemed simpler.

Instead, a protracted battle

affordable housing disputes elsewhere. Still, the collision of environmental, neighborhood and social justice issues is making people squirm in a place where the only thing more important than making the world bet-

sition to public housing but practical objections based on Woodstock's small size (population about 6,000), charmingly old-fashioned downtown and creaky infrastructure. Among their complaints: the project is

errors and problems the planning process missed. "But it's the wrong project in the wrong place," she continued.

Woodstock's lack of affordable housing has long been a public concern, albeit a low-level one, in a place where almost any building project — whether a cellphone tower, the expansion of a Buddhist mon-

astery or solar panels at an animal sanctuary — can set off a nasty dispute.

Finally, an affordable housing committee identified a wooded site with sensitive wetlands behind the drab strip shopping center leading into Woodstock's downtown and, in 2003, invited the nonprofit Rural Ulster Preservation Co. to design a plan. □



Iris York, a project opponent, on the perimeter of the complex site where affordable housing is to be developed in Woodstock, N.Y., Sept. 8, 2011. The liberal town, now expensive, is split over the construction of a 54-unit affordable housing project.

(Nathaniel Brooks/The New York Times)

over a 53-unit affordable housing project is dividing this still-crunchy town where mellow '60s vibes and liberal politics coexist uneasily with real estate prices increasingly out of the reach of the humbler classes.

When workers finally began clearing land for the Woodstock Commons project in July, it looked as if the uncomfortable saga might finally be ending. Instead, new issues kept popping up: the plight of black bears and nesting, endangered Indiana bats threatened by the construction; a botched permitting process; uncertainty about water service. In some ways what is playing out in Woodstock is a more colorful microcosm of

ter can be keeping Woodstock the same. "Nobody would tell you they don't want these people in our town," said Jeff Moran, the town supervisor, who has been a conflicted supporter of the project. "Instead, they talk about the effect on the quality of life, ramping up the costs of services and those kind of things. But there's a joke in town that the reason the Woodstock Times costs a dollar is because people don't want change. People come here and they think they have an investment in the town being a certain way." Opponents, particularly in neighborhoods near the project site, said the issue isn't NIMBY-ism or oppo-

too big, it is located at a dangerous bend for traffic, the site should remain green space. They have picked apart particulars, like the nonprofit developer's claim that residents would be within walking distance of a nearby "grocery store" that is actually a high-priced health food store. "It's politically incorrect to oppose an affordable project, so you can't even look at it," said Robin Segal, who has a doctorate in energy policy and who moved to town two years ago in search of a garden and peace and quiet. She has since been consumed with writing and researching a detailed blog about the project that has found

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Demand for fashion line crashes Target's website

STEPHANIE CLIFFORD

© 2011 New York Times

Target's website came crashing down Tuesday as Missoni-loving fashion devotees invaded, scrambling to buy the high-end Italian designer's clothes for a song.

With its limited-edition Missoni for Target line, introduced Tuesday, and other low-price designer collections, Target has been trying to position itself as the chicest of the discount stores. Missoni's clothing usually costs in the hundreds or thousands of dollars, but it had designed a number of cheaper items for Target, like a \$40 skirt in its signature zigzag design and a \$600 patio set.

However, the limited-edition fashions were more limited than Target may have wanted.

In an unusual misstep for the large retailer, Target was unprepared for online shoppers' hunger. The Target.com site was wiped out for most of the day; the company said that demand for items was higher than it was on a typical day after Thanksgiving, and that is usually the biggest shopping day of the year. "The excitement for this limited-time designer collection is unprecedented," said Morgan O'Murray, a spokeswoman for Target, in an email. But on Twitter and other social media sites, thwarted shoppers posted furious messages and commiserated about the site's failure, with a few bragging that they had made it through in the brief periods that Target.com was working.

Marketing experts said the



An undated handout image of a Margherita Maccapani Missoni in an advertising campaign for Missoni for Target. Target's website crashed on Tuesday as fashionistas invaded, scrambling to buy the high-end Italian designer's clothes.

(The New York Times)

problem was amateurish, although they said it should not have any lasting effect on Target's reputation.

"It's a little bit embarrassing for one of the nation's largest retailers to have a website that can't support a rush — it's not like they're any strangers to rushes," said Ian Schafer, chief executive of the digital-marketing firm Deep Focus. "It's saying, 'We're so popular we had to turn people away at the door.' Then get a bigger place."

The problems came just three weeks after Target, which had been relying on Amazon's back end for its website, switched to its own platform and reopened the site. But O'Murray said the crashing of the site was caused only by demand for the products. □

The Missoni line was the latest in a series of low-price designer collections for Target. Past collaborators have included Calypso St. Barth, Liberty of London, Rodarte and Zac Posen.

All the collections have been available both online and in stores, said a Target spokesman, Joshua Thomas, and many items from the collections have sold out quickly. In the Missoni case, he said, the magnitude and immediacy of the demand was unprecedented. □

The collaborations tend to bring in regular Target shoppers who are eager for a piece of glamour at a fraction of the price, along with fashion fans who like the novelty of wearing a cheap-chic piece made by a favored designer. The Missoni pieces at Target are mostly under \$40, for instance, while Missoni items at Bergdorf Goodman cost up to \$12,000.

Target drummed up publicity for the Missoni line before Tuesday, releasing photos of the products to fashion bloggers, hosting a party with celebrities and fashion editors, and setting up a pop-up shop last week in New York City where the merchandise sold out in six hours. Even Vogue gave the collection several pages of coverage in its August issue, marking perhaps the first and last time that a \$30 rug has made it into that magazine. By last week, the excitement was so high that actresses Jessica Alba and Jessica Simpson, both of whom can no doubt afford full-price Missoni, were conversing on Twitter about the line. □

Passenger:

Was cuffed, searched over my 'appearance'



This photo supplied by its subject, Shoshana Hebshi, was taken Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011. Hebshi said she was strip-searched after being led in handcuffs from a Frontier Airlines flight from Denver to Detroit on Sept. 11. She said she is of mixed Arab-Jewish heritage and was searched solely because of her appearance. She was sitting next to two men who had come under suspicion because of their use of an airplane bathroom. She said she did not know the men. All three were freed after being questioned.

(AP Photo/Supplied by Shoshana Hebshi)

JEFF KAROUB

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — A woman says she was taken off an airplane in handcuffs, strip-searched and interrogated by authorities in Michigan on the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks "simply because" of her appearance.

Shoshana Hebshi said Tuesday she was one of three people escorted off a plane in handcuffs from a Denver-to-Detroit Frontier Airlines flight. The 35-year-

old mother from Ohio says they didn't know each other but were in the same row.

Hebshi says the men were Indian and describes herself as half-Arab, half-Jewish, with dark complexion.

Two fighter jets escorted the plane after its crew reported suspicious activity.

The FBI says it questioned Hebshi and released her after finding nothing suspicious. Airport police say they acted appropriately. □

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Tipping the balance for scales

FARHAD MANJOO

© 2011 New York Times

Consider the Parmesan problem: Imagine that you're making lasagna with a recipe that calls for topping it with "a cup of grated cheese."

This was a straightforward instruction when the box grater was the only way to shred cheese. In the last few years, though, more cooks have bought Microplanes, which can turn a small chunk of Parmesan into mountains of billowy ribbons of cheese. And there lies the difficulty: The heavier shavings of a box grater can fill a cup with twice as much cheese as a Microplane's fluffy snow.

J. Kenji Lopez-Alt, the managing editor of the blog Serious Eats, once asked 10 people to measure a cup of all-purpose flour into a bowl. When the cooks were done, Lopez-Alt weighed each bowl. "Depending on how strong you are or your scooping method, I found that a 'cup of flour' could be anywhere from 4 to 6 ounces," he said. That's a significant difference: one cook might be making a cake with one-and-a-half times as much flour as another.

Professional chefs have long argued that there is nothing simple about a simple cup of flour. Nor is there anything foolproof in that cup of grated cheese, a half-cup of diced carrots or a tablespoon of butter. When you fill a measuring cup or spoon with any ingredient, the amount you



A pair of kitchen scales with measuring cup filled with flour, right, and brown sugar, in New York, Sept. 9, 2011. The kitchen scale, though useful and very accurate, is not a must-have tool in American kitchens because most recipes use standard measurements. (Tony Cenicola/The New York Times)

get depends on a number of factors: how small you've sliced it, how tightly you've packed it in, how carefully you've scooped and whether you manage to get all of it out of the spoon. (Consider the mess of getting all the honey out of a tablespoon measure.) But when you weigh the same ingredients on a scale, none of these factors comes into play. Four ounces of flour (or cheese, carrots, honey or anything else) are 4 ounces, no matter who's measuring, or

how.

Over the last few years digital kitchen scales have become cheap and widely available. I've tried several and even the cheapest – the Ozeri Pro, about \$20 – was easy to use and very accurate. Other models were just as terrific: The Soehnle digital kitchen scale, about \$23, and the Oxo Good Grips model, \$50, were slightly snappier to look at than the Ozeri Pro, but all three were equally adept at their primary function. □

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U.S. scrambling to avert Palestinian vote at U.N.



Cups designed as part of the campaign promoting the Palestinians' bid for statehood are displayed in a souvenirs shop in Gaza City, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas is set to address the U.N. next week, planning to ask the world to recognize a Palestinian state.

(AP Photo/Adel Hana)

WASHINGTON — The United States faced increasing pressure Tuesday as the Palestinian quest for statehood gained support from Turkey and other countries, even as the Obama administration sought an 11th-hour compromise that would avoid a confrontation at the United Nations next week.

With only days before world leaders gather in New York, the maneuvering became an exercise in brinkmanship as the administration wrestles with roiling tensions in the region, including a sharp deterioration of relations among three of its closest allies in the region: Egypt, Israel and Turkey.

Nabil el-Araby, secretary general of the Arab League, said after meeting with the

Palestinians on Monday night that "it is obvious that the Palestinian authority and the Arab countries are leaning towards going to the General Assembly," where a successful vote could elevate the status of the Palestinian Authority from nonvoting "observer entity" to "observer state," a status equal to that of the Holy See.

Earlier in the day, Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey ratcheted up pressure on the United States and Israel by telling Arab League ministers that recognition of a Palestinian state was "not a choice but an obligation."

In Washington, Secretary

of State Hillary Rodham Clinton announced that U.S. negotiators would return to the region Wednesday to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority in a final effort to avert a vote.

The administration, working with the European Union's foreign policy chief, Catherine Ashton, and Tony Blair, who serves as a special envoy to the region, continued to seek international support for what Clinton described as "a sustainable platform for negotiations" between the Israelis and the Palestinians to create a Palestinian state.□

Man's phone used to call terror suspect

GENE JOHNSON
Associated Press

(AP) — A man who tried to run two U.S. Marine sergeants off Interstate 5 in July had apparently been in contact with a suspect in a terrorism plot that had been foiled weeks earlier, prosecutors said Tuesday. Michael D. McCright, 28, was charged Tuesday with second-degree assault after a car swerved at a government-owned sedan on July 12.

He was ordered held on \$2 million bail.

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the target of what authorities said was a foiled terror plot by Abu Khalid Abdul-Latif and Walli Mujahidh.

The men were arrested in a sting operation in late June after they arrived at a warehouse garage to pick up machine guns to use in the attack, authorities said.

"Investigators have confirmed that the cell phone used by the defendant, Michael McCright, was used on at least three occasions to contact Abdul-Latif prior to Latif's arrest by federal authorities," King County deputy prosecutor Gary Ernsdorff said. □

wrote in documents seeking the high bail amount. "The FBI is continuing to investigate defendant McCright's possible connection to domestic terrorism."

McCright, of Lynnwood, has prior convictions for robbery, assault and burglary, and could face life in prison without release as a three-strikes offender if convicted, Ernsdorff said.

He wrote that McCright also uses the name Mikhial Jihad. McCright has not been charged with any terrorism offense, and the prosecutor's office said it was not aware if he had obtained a lawyer.

Seattle police Detective Len Carver III wrote in a probable cause statement that McCright, driving a blue Geo Metro, pulled along the passenger side of the sedan, which had government plates, shortly before 5 p.m. on I-5 in North Seattle. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Ryan Picklesimer, who was in uniform, was driving, and Gunnery Sgt. Thomas Lopez was in the passenger's seat.

Picklesimer reported that when the Metro's driver saw him, "his eyes widened and he appeared to become angry," Carver wrote, and the driver swerved suddenly to within 5 or 6 inches of the sedan. □

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U.S. hikers to be freed in 2 days, Ahmadinejad says

ALAN COWELL

RICK GLADSTONE

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LONDON — Iran's president said Tuesday that two Americans arrested two years ago while hiking the Iran-Iraq frontier and imprisoned on espionage charges would be freed within two days as a humanitarian gesture. The move seemed timed to portray him more favorably before he attends the U.N. General Assembly meeting next week.

The remarks by the president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, in an interview with NBC's "Today" show from Tehran, came a month after Shane M. Bauer and Joshua F. Fattal, both 29, were sentenced to eight years in an Iranian prison on the spying charges, which they have denied.

The sentence was considered unusually harsh and seen as an increasingly tough public relations



Pakistani Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani, left, talks to Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, right, in their meeting at the Iranian presidency office, in Tehran, Iran.

(AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

problem for Ahmadinejad abroad, even when considering the longstanding estrangement in U.S.-Iranian relations.

It was unclear whether Ah-

madinejad's gesture would create an opening for an improvement in those relations. But it was welcomed by the families of the imprisoned Americans.

"Shane and Josh's freedom means more to us than anything," the statement said, "and it's a huge relief to read that they are going to be released."

We're grateful to everyone who has supported us and looking forward to our reunion with Shane and Josh. We hope to say more when they are finally back in our arms."

A website devoted to their cause, FreetheHikers, festooned its homepage with the headline: "Iran Says Shane and Josh to be Freed by Thursday!"

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was more cautious in her reaction but said she was encouraged. "We obviously hope that we will see a positive outcome from what appears to be a decision by the government," Clinton said, without referring specifically to Ahmadinejad.

Asked in the "Today" interview with Ann Curry about the case against the Americans, Ahmadinejad said: "I think these two persons will be freed in a couple of days." □



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Taliban attack US Embassy, other Kabul buildings

AMIR SHAH

PATRICK QUINN

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) —

Teams of insurgents firing rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons

the city from midday well into the night as U.S. helicopters buzzed overhead. No embassy or NATO staff members were hurt. Late Tuesday, at least two gunmen remained holed

where in the capital — the first time insurgents have organized such a complex assault against multiple targets in separate parts of the city.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, though Kabul's deputy police chief said he thought an affiliated organization, the Haqqani network, carried it out.

The Taliban and related groups have staged more than a dozen assaults in Kabul this year, including three major attacks since June. That represents an increase from years past and is clearly intended to offset U.S. claims of weakening the insurgents on southern battlefields and through hundreds of night raids by special forces targeting their commanders.

The Obama administration declared that it wouldn't allow Tuesday's attack to deter the American mission in Afghanistan, warning the attackers that they would be relentlessly pursued.

Even so, the U.S. Embassy in Kabul canceled all trips in and out of Afghanistan for its diplomats, and suspended all travel within Afghanistan. High blast walls ring the embassy compound, and there was little damage to the reinforced concrete buildings, many of which are surrounded by sandbags. □

An Afghan military helicopter fires on a building which is occupied by Taliban insurgents during a coordinated assault in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011. Taliban insurgents fired rocket-propelled grenades and assault rifles at the U.S. Embassy, NATO headquarters and other buildings in the heart of the Afghan capital Tuesday while suicide bombers struck police buildings. The U.S. Embassy and NATO reported no casualties.

(AP Photo/Musadeq Sadeq)

struck at the U.S. Embassy, NATO headquarters and other buildings in the heart of the Afghan capital Tuesday, raising fresh doubts about the Afghans' ability to secure their nation as U.S. and other foreign troops begin to withdraw.

Seven Afghans were killed and 15 wounded in the co-ordinated daylight attack, which sent foreigners dashing for cover and terrified

up on the top floors of an apartment building from which they and other militants had attacked the heavily fortified embassy. The militants' seeming ability to strike at will in the most heavily defended part of Kabul suggested that they may have had help from rogue elements in the Afghan security forces. The attacks also coincided with suicide bombings else-

Death toll in Kenya pipeline explosion rises to 87

TOM ODULA

Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — The death toll from a gasoline pipeline explosion in the Kenyan capital has risen to 87, a Red Cross official said Tuesday, as the Kenyan government declared two days of mourning for the victims of the disaster.

Earlier in the day, residents working with the Red Cross waded through a river filled with sewage using sticks to poke around for the bodies of their family members.

Red Cross coordinator Pamela Indiaka said five more people died Tuesday in the hospital while undergoing treatment for severe burns, bringing the total number of deaths to 87. The earlier toll on Tuesday was reached after one body was recovered late on Monday, and six more bodies were recovered Tuesday from the sewage-filled river. Indiaka said the Red Cross has called off their search and recovery mission at the scene of Monday's explosion. "We don't see any hope of finding any more bodies and we've asked the government to call the navy to see whether they can send in specialized divers to look for bodies that may be stuck in the river," she said. The Kenya Red Cross has set up a counseling center and tracking desk at a hall where the homeless are staying to help people affected by the fire, said Venant Ndigila, a security manager at the Red Cross. Families can get help for trauma and assistance in tracing their missing relatives, he said. Among those made homeless is 12-year-old Olipa Birongo Oginga, who ran out of the inferno carrying her 2 1/2-year-old niece on her back while leading her 7-year-old brother by the hand. Oginga said they had gone out to see the rush of people running out of their home to collect the gasoline. Some people seemed intoxicated by the gasoline fumes, she said. Then the explosion happened. Mortuary officials are collecting all the bodies before relatives view them to try to spare families the trauma of repeatedly trying to identify badly burned corpses. Only 10 of the 22 they currently have are identifiable, said senior mortuary attendant Sammy Nyongesa. Among the anxious relatives waiting to view the bodies was Cleophas Busolo, who said he had searched several hospitals for his 17-year-old son. I am panicking because I am not sure if he is dead or alive, I am not very sure, said Busolo, a night watchman. "If I had found his body, I would be sure of what to do." The head of the state-owned Kenya Pipeline Company said Monday's explosion was caused by an over-pressurized pipeline. □



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For All of your Sporting Needs

No 'Domino Theory' for Abkhazia, just a tournament

MICHAEL SCHWIRTZ

© 2011 New York Times

SUKHUMI, Georgia — After nearly two decades of searching mostly in vain for international acceptance, Abkhazia, a tiny rebel region in the former Soviet republic of Georgia, has found an unusual ally.

Though shunned by all but a handful of countries, Abkhazia is considered a respected — nay, vaunted — global power among the spotted-tile enthusiasts of world domino competition. Even before Russia became the first country to recognize the territory as sovereign in August 2008, the International Domino Federation, which organizes domino competitions around the world, bucked Georgia's protests and welcomed Abkhazia into its ranks as a full-fledged member.

And next month, Abkhazia will host the World Domino Championships here in the capital, Sukhumi.

The honor, typically reserved for U.N. members, is a reflection of this obscure region's prowess in a game that itself remains largely overshadowed by higher-profile tabletop pastimes like checkers and chess. The federation's 25 member countries chose Abkhazia in a unanimous vote last year in Las Vegas.

Never mind that only four other countries, two of which are tiny Pacific islands, have followed Russia's lead in recognizing Abkhaz independence. From Oct. 17 through 21, Abkhazia will be the center of the domino universe.



Players shuffle dominoes in Sukhumi, the capital of Abkhazia, Georgia, Aug. 22, 2011. Shunned by all but a handful of countries, Abkhazia is considered a global power among the spotted-tile enthusiasts of world domino competition.

(James Hill/The New York Times)

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"For us this is hugely significant, not only as an athletic competition," said Ruslan Tarba, a journalist and domino enthusiast in Abkhazia. "People are going to come here and be able to see that we are not wild men climbing in palm trees, carrying automatic weapons. Most importantly for us is for people to leave convinced of the fact that Abkhazia was, is and will be an open and friendly country." Though possessed of a stark natural beauty, Abkhazia, a former Soviet vacation spot on the Black Sea, by no means looks like a tame place for international competitions of any kind. Nearly 20 years have passed since Abkhaz rebels expelled Georgian troops in one of the bloodiest conflicts to erupt from the Soviet collapse. □

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Matinee: sat - sun | Late show: fri & sat

It's the season of newbies at NY Fashion Week

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL

AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Season after season, it's Anna Wintour on the front row and Marc Jacobs as the most eagerly anticipated runway show at New York Fashion Week. Enter: The newbies.

Tory Burch held her first model walk at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall on Tuesday, the sixth day of spring previews, followed by J. Crew's first appearance at the tents.

Later Tuesday, red carpet favorite Marchesa is scheduled for the label's debut seated show, at the Plaza Hotel. "It's a lot more work, although I'm not sure why," Burch said backstage, a few minutes before her first model stepped onto the catwalk. "But I love doing it. Until now, Burch has only done presentations, where models stand still wearing clothes in venues that don't involve a seated audience and lack the drama of a runway. J. Crew has staged other shows, but

nothing with the magnitude of moving to the tents that serve as the hub of seasonal previews.

That fact didn't hit Jenna Lyons, the J. Crew president and executive director, until she arrived at the tents Tuesday morning. "I thought we were just moving our show, but then came the hype and excitement," she said. "I felt excited when I got here — I felt like I was going to the prom."

Marchesa designer Georgina Chapman had some technical problems to solve now that the models would actually be moving. The dresses in the Marchesa collection are usually very elaborate and grand — best complemented by skyscraper heels.

"The situation with the shoes was that they never had to be OK to walk in them," Chapman said by phone last week. "Now we have to make them work with the dresses, and now we have to think of the length of the dresses, too,

so the models can move."

Much has remained the same at New York Fashion Week while the newbies settle in. The calendar doesn't change all that much. Vera Wang and Narciso Rodriguez, for instance, always show on Tuesday and stuck to tradition this time around.

Jacobs will close the eight-day run previews Thursday night. Don't forget to turn out the lights Marc!

Fashion week moves to London on Friday, followed by Milan and Paris.

TORY BURCH

Burch did more than move to a bigger space and add bench seats.

Judging by the turnout for her first runway show, she confirmed her status as a solid player instead of an up-and-comer.

Burch's collection was inspired by the seaside French resort of Deauville in the 1920s.

Backstage, as she checked on models with hair pulled into ponytails, Burch said she was drawn to that locale and period because it was the right mix of polished and sporty.

She opened with a silk dress that had cascading pleats in front, and a red-and-pink striped tie-neck blouse paired with a dot-print skirt. There was a little bit of everything, from a striped swim skirt to a billowy blush-colored gown, and that's surely the appeal of Burch's label. It's not breaking new ground, but her fans can



Fashion from the Spring 2012 collection of Vera Wang is modeled on Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011 in New York.

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

count on it to hit the trends — with an uptown interpretation — and make them wearable.

RODARTE

Kate and Laura Mulleavy used to be the newbies. Not anymore.

For their Rodarte this sea-

son, they present a sunny day but also some starry night purple in a lavish homage to Vincent van Gogh.

A sunflower print was everywhere. Colors were bold: Marigold, aqua, night purple, and of course, midnight blue. □



Designer Rolando Santana works with a model to prepare his spring 2012 fashion show in New York, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)



The Marchesa Spring 2012 collection is modeled Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011 during Fashion Week in New York.

(AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

Chef Erwin introduces Vongole & Guinea Fowl specials

Jeffrey Besamusca is the big winner from DJ Rico Rijk

EAGLE BEACH - This past week, Cool FM listener Jeffrey Besamusca was listening to DJ Rico Rijk's morning radio program when he asked listeners to be the first to text in the name the beach that the Screaming Eagle Restaurant-Lounge is located. Jeffrey sent an SMS first with the correct answer Eagle Beach and won a dinner-for-two which he enjoyed with his girlfriend Kimberly.



Erwin Hüsker, Head Chef at Screaming Eagle, wants to introduce you to some of the most popular seasonal specials from North Europe which are created by the freshest and finest ingredients and products.

Each year in September, after a long 3 month shell-fishing ban, the season is on for Vongole! These mouth-watering little ocean delights are better known as 'Clams', so I'm taking

the seasonal opportunity to add two dishes to this week's specials.

Additionally, he's added 'Guinea Fowl' to the menu. This is a more exclusive kind of poultry; some say it looks like turkey, I say it is a tender delicacy and tastes way better!

This week's special Appetizers include: Nigiri of sea bass lacquered with thai caramel, wakame salad, salted lemon peel and soy-ginger dressing ; Fish cakes with fresh salad, orange, tomato and dill mayonnaise; Veal tartar with truffle, vongole, rucola, sun dried tomatoes and piccalilli dressing; and Poultry broth with ravioli of duck.

The Main Courses include: Pasta with vongole "a la nage", fennel, celery and olive oil, Pan seared guinea fowl breast with purple heirloom potato, fried cauliflower and morel sauce, Pork tenderloin with pan seared potatoes, roasted bell pepper, prunes and creamy blue cheese sauce, Mosaic of lamb fillet with couscous, raisins, mixed vegetables and sauce of raz el hanout.

Screaming Eagle perfectly matches South Beach lounge décor with ultra-chic French fusion cuisine complemented by a well-stocked wine cellar and an equally impressive bar list of innovative cocktails from around the globe. While also paying tribute to the classics, the menu delivers unusual food combinations with never-before pairings, infusing nightly dinner rituals with pleasant elements of surprise.

For guests looking to amp up the romance for the evening, the Screaming Eagle proudly offers dinner in bed. They have entirely devoted one section of the house to canopy beds



strewn with white pillows, bathed in soft romantic lighting, and draped with white chiffon. Couples can kick off their shoes and cuddle up while enjoying sumptuous dishes laid out on wooden bed trays.

DJ Rico Rijk's radio program on Cool FM 98.9 everyday Monday to Friday from 10:30 to 12:00, the dinner-for-two raffle is every Friday, so tune in. □



Arthur & Paula Weinstein win a trip back to Aruba



PALM BEACH – Over the course of last year, T.H. Palm & Company, at Playa Linda Beach Resort, offered shoppers the opportunity to register for a raffle featuring a return trip to Aruba. While T.H. Palm & Company paid for the airline tickets for two, Playa Linda Beach

Resort sponsored the accommodations. The campaign ran a full year and recently a winner was picked from among many names in the drum. Arthur & Paula Weinstein, from NJ, won the coveted grand prize. They have been coming to Aruba for many years, stay-



ing in different resort hotels, and this week was Paula's birthday, making the grand prize a welcome and unexpected surprise. The couple will be returning to Aruba in February as guests of T.H. Palm & Company, at Playa Linda Beach Resort. Pictured here the Weinstein re-

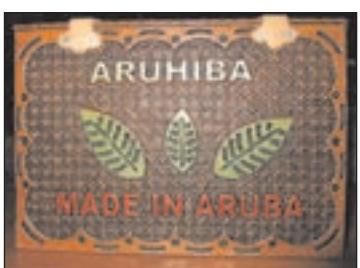
ceiving their gift certificate from the helpful T.H. Palm & Company crew. T.H. Palm & Company is a member of the Salamander Group. Besides offering great gifts in a stylish setting and added value in the form of attractive raffles, T.H. Palm & Company, is on its fifth

year of fund raising for the community under its Tikkun Olam, Repair of the World program, delivers quarterly donations to Aruba's not-for-profit foundations. The repair on the world checks derive from funds donated by the Salamander Group and store shoppers. □

Aruhiba, The 1 and Only Homemad Aruban Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till

8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores.

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U.S. Competition BBQ Judges give Hollywood Smokehouse Diner five stars

SAN NICOLAS -- The Hollywood Smokehouse Diner has been open just short of six months, but is already earning a solid reputation for offering the island's best barbecue, where beef brisket, pulled pork, ribs, and even fresh local fish is slow-smoked over hickory, and served with home-style Southern side dishes. Last week, owners Mike and Tina were pleasantly surprised when two competition barbecue judges popped in for lunch.

Both judges are sanctioned with the Kansas City Barbecue Society—the world's largest organization of barbecue enthusiasts, as well as the Memphis Barbecue Network— one of the leading sanctioning bodies of BBQ contests in the world, the Southern Barbecue Network, and the South Carolina Barbecue Association. The judges, who had originally learned of the Hollywood Smokehouse Diner on Trip Advisor, wrote their own review of their experience: "As a BBQ judge (KCBS, MBN, SBN, SCBA), I am always a bit skeptical of "restaurant BBQ." However, the Hollywood Smokehouse Diner was wonderful. Had read about it and stumbled on it while exploring Aruba. Ordered the combo plate



with both pulled pork and beef brisket. Although they offer 5 different (and very tasty) sauces, the meat did not need it. The fabulous smoke taste was evident which is always a sign of great Q (never like my Q to be "sauce dependent"). The other sign is the smell of BBQ when you pull up in the parking lot, which was also present! Great visiting with owners Tina & Mike / talking

Q with them! See you on our next visit!" Like these judges, Tina, Hollywood's pit master, takes her "Q" seriously. "I was raised in North Carolina—the capital of pulled pork and where barbecue is a highly regarded culinary art form. I grew up with the smell of hickory smoking in our backyard every weekend, and my dad boasted the best ribs in our neighborhood, lovingly smeared

with my mom's homemade sauce—never, ever would you find a bottled bbq sauce in our fridge!" Great barbecue is at the heart of Hollywood's success, but with good barbecue comes those must-have side dishes, like Southern brown sugar baked beans, red bliss potato salad, cole slaw, and much more—all, Tina says, are from generations-old family recipes. And

speaking of generations old, the Hollywood, a super casual barbecue joint, is housed in one of the island's oldest buildings, a San Nicolas historic landmark that has been in Mike's family for four generations. So for a bit of island history and a taste of authentic Southern barbecue, head on down to the sunshine side of the island for some island-style southern hospitality. □



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Let the Good Times Roll at The Casino at the Radisson



PALM BEACH – Over the past three weeks the Casino at the Radisson paid over \$17,000 in jackpots, rewarding resort guests and guests from neighboring hotels for their visits. The casino is especially popular ev-

ery Wednesday when the weekly Poker Tournament unfolds, as the casino offers free Poker lessons and free Poker tournaments upon request, resulting in a very lively and entertaining Poker room.

Saturday's Slot Tournament also enjoys a die-hard following with Robert Chaves, Walter Hermans and Luzmarina Armora sharing the grand prize one week and Tina Sabatino, Elisabeth Nicholls and Robert

Chaves, tapping it the following week, both Elizabeth and Robert are loyal repeat guests of the casino. Elizabeth was also lucky the following week, when she divided the cash award with Michael Kock and Hendrik Brete.

The casino at the Radisson offers daily exciting promotions and invites the general public to attend Friday's Cash Madness for \$1,000 in cash, and lovely consolation prizes! □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Billy Hunter, right, executive director of the NBA players union, explains that union president Derek Fisher, left, of the Los Angeles Lakers, would give the union's side of labor talks, after representatives of the owners and the players met Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2011, in New York.

Associated Press

NBA labor:

Talks fail to bring progress

BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Basketball Writer

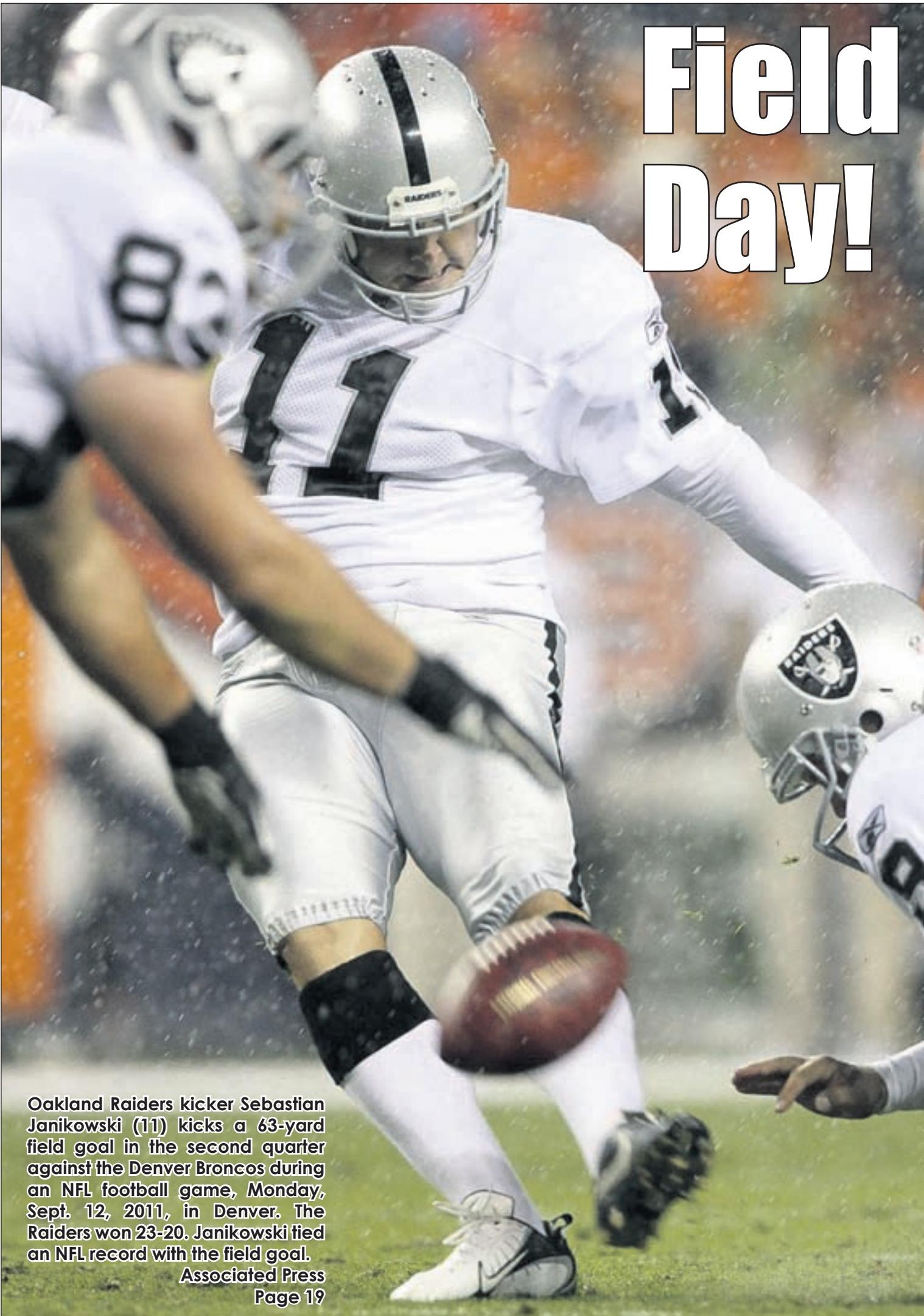
NEW YORK (AP) — The start of the NBA season was thrown into doubt Tuesday after players and owners made no progress at a key labor meeting, with no further talks scheduled.

Union executive director Billy Hunter says players were prepared to make a "significant" financial move, but found owners unwilling to budge off their positions.

Union president Derek Fisher of the Lakers said he will tell players that "the way it looks right now we may not start on time."

Fisher added that "we can't find a place with the league and our owners where we can reach a deal sooner rather than later."

The two sides had initially planned to meet again on Wednesday. □



Field Day!

Oakland Raiders kicker Sebastian Janikowski (11) kicks a 63-yard field goal in the second quarter against the Denver Broncos during an NFL football game, Monday, Sept. 12, 2011, in Denver. The Raiders won 23-20. Janikowski tied an NFL record with the field goal.

Associated Press

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This July 17, 2008 file photo shows Betty Skelton Erde holding a book with a photo of her driving a 1956 Corvette pace car on the sand at Daytona Beach, Fla., at her home in The Villages, Fla.

Motorsports pioneer Betty Skelton Erde dies at 85

THE VILLAGES, Fla. (AP) — Betty Skelton Erde, an aviator and auto racing pioneer once called the fastest woman on Earth, has died. She was 85. Erde set female speed records at Daytona Beach and Utah's Bonneville salt flats half a century ago. In 2008, she was inducted into the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in suburban Detroit. Dozens of firsts are attached to her name: the auto industry's first female test driver in 1954; the first to set a female world land speed record in 1956 (145 mph at Daytona Beach); and the world land speed record for women in 1965, hitting 315.72 mph at Bonneville. Erde began drawing attention as a female stunt pilot as a teenager in the 1940s. "To me, there's hardly any feeling in the world that can equal the feeling of an airplane when the wheels leave the ground," Erde told The Associated Press in 2008. She mastered dozens of tricks. Her signature move was cutting a ribbon strung between two fishing poles with her propeller, while flying upside down just 10 feet off the ground. In 1948, she bought a rare Pitts Special — a lightweight, red-and-white biplane suited for aerobatics. But while Erde was soaring in popularity, she also was a rarity because she was a young, beautiful woman in a male-dominated world of death-defying stunts. □

Dominant Djokovic says he still has more to prove



Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, smiles with his U.S. Open trophy at the top of the Empire State Building in New York, Tuesday Sept. 13, 2011. Djokovic defeated Rafael Nadal Sunday to win his first U.S. Open tennis championship and third Grand Slam trophy of the year.

HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Novak Djokovic is ranked No. 1 and is 64-2 in 2011, and sees room for improvement. He won three of the four Grand Slam titles this year — at the Australian Open, Wimbledon and U.S. Open — and is talking about adding to his collection. "There is a lot more to prove, a lot more tournaments to win," Djokovic told reporters at the Empire State Building on Tuesday, a day after he beat Rafael Nadal in the final at Flushing Meadows.

And that's not all: Djokovic gained plenty of attention for his spot-on impersonations of other players (Nadal, Andy Roddick and Maria Sharapova, among others), and now he wants to pursue acting.

"Yeah. Why not? I might do something if I have time soon. And I would like to. I just think show business is something that attracts me, that I really like watching, that I like being a part of. It's part of my personality," Djokovic said after making the rounds to various morning talk shows with a couple of days' worth of stubble on his face and the benefit of about three hours' worth of sleep.

The 24-year-old from Serbia didn't provide details or indicate whether he'd like to

wind up on TV or in a movie; he did say he already has a couple of offers to consider. "This the way I see things off the court. ... If I embrace them, if I accept them as something that can give me energy, that can make me happy, then it all goes in a positive direction," Djokovic said.

"Or vice versa: You can say, 'Oh, look this is taking my attention off tennis. This is negative.' It just depends the way you look at it, and I try always to look at it in a positive way."

Just in case anyone might wonder how focused Djokovic is on his future as a thespian, he was sure to note: "I will not interfere that with my professional life." Djokovic is doing pretty well at his day job, putting together what seven-time major champion John McEnroe called "the greatest year in the history of our sport, there's no doubt about it."

McEnroe, by the way, went 82-3 in 1984.

As impressive as Djokovic's overall record is, what's even more indicative of exactly how well he's playing is that he is 10-1 against Nadal and Roger Federer this season.

He overcame a two-set deficit, then two match points at 5-3, 40-15 in the fifth, to eliminate Federer in the U.S. Open semifinals

Associated Press

Saturday, before dominating Nadal for most of the 4 hours, 10 minutes it took to complete their riveting 6-2, 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-1 final. It's only the second time someone beat Federer and Nadal at the same Grand Slam tournament.

Against Nadal, Djokovic was treated by a trainer after the third set and twice more during the fourth for pain in a muscle between his ribs, an aching back and leg cramps.

"To be honest, there was doubts in my mind after the third set," he said Tuesday, "because physically I wasn't there. I wasn't fresh." His serve speeds dropped from around 120 mph to the 90s — "quite weak," Djokovic called it — during the fourth set, which actually might have thrown off Nadal.

"I guess he was a little confused as well — that's what I felt — on his return games because he was expecting the ball to come faster," Djokovic explained.

He improved to 6-0 against Nadal this year, all in tournament finals, and on three different surfaces: hard courts, clay and grass. Djokovic said those victories give him a "psychological advantage" against a player who preceded him at the top of the rankings and has 10 Grand Slam titles of his own. □

Lel, Mutai to run NYC Marathon

NEW YORK (AP) — Two-time NYC Marathon champion Martin Lel and this year's London Marathon winner Emmanuel Mutai of Kenya will run in New York in November.

The 33-year-old Lel has run the New York City Marathon twice and won it both times, in 2003 and '07. He's a three-time champion in London and has placed in the top three in 11 of his 12 marathon finishes.

The 27-year-old Mutai finished second in New York last year.

The NYC Marathon is Nov. 6. □

Morelia beats Galaxy 2-1

MORELIA, Mexico (AP) — Miguel Sabah and Adrian Aldrete scored late goals Tuesday to lift Mexican side Morelia to a 2-1 victory over the Los Angeles Galaxy in Group A of the CONCACAF Champions League. Sabah scored in injury time after Adrian Aldrete equalized in the 83rd.

Former Tottenham player Robbie Keane gave the Galaxy the lead in the 52nd minute. Morelia had 70 percent of the possession in the first half, but it was the Galaxy that finally broke through with the goal.

Morelia now shares the Group A lead with the Galaxy on six points from three matches.

Galaxy's Omar Gonzalez had the best chance in the first half with a 31st-minute header that went off the crossbar.

Keane got Galaxy on the board, taking a pass from Landon Donovan and slotting the ball home.

Aldrete took advantage of a goalkeeping error to level the score when his long shot slipped through the hands of Galaxy keeper Josh Saunders.

Sabah then sealed the win with a header inside the near post. □



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Janikowski ties NFL record with 63-yard field goal

NFL Roundup

DENVER (AP) — Sebastian Janikowski tied an NFL record with a 63-yard field goal as Oakland beat Denver in an ill-tempered and clumsy game between the AFC West rivals.

The Raiders claimed victory in Denver for the fourth straight season, and gave coach Hue Jackson his first win as an NFL head coach. It was the Broncos first loss in a home opener since 2000. John Fox lost his debut as Denver's coach, and he lost at least two playmakers in the process.

Pass-rusher Elvis Dumervil hurt his shoulder early, and perennial Pro Bowl cornerback Champ Bailey injured his left knee making a touchdown-saving tackle of Darren McFadden, who ran 22 times for 150 yards.

The Broncos cut the deficit to 23-20 on Kyle Orton's 9-yard touchdown pass to Lance Ball with 3:43 left.

Other than that, Orton had a tough night. He completed 24 of 46 passes for 304 yards with an interception. As he left the field, fans were chanting, "Tebow! Tebow!" for second-year quarterback Tim Tebow, a former college star who has been contentiously overlooked for the starting quarterback role.

The Raiders salted away the win by controlling the clock and were able to line up in victory formation after Michael Bush's 12-yard run to midfield for the first down at the 2-minute warning. After a first half filled with

fouls, fists and frustration, the Raiders took a 16-3 lead into the locker room in wild celebration as Janikowski's 63-yard field goal fluttered over the crossbar as time expired.

That tied the mark set by Tom Dempsey in 1970 and matched by Denver's Jason Elam in 1998 at the old Mile High Stadium.

Patriots 38, Dolphins 24

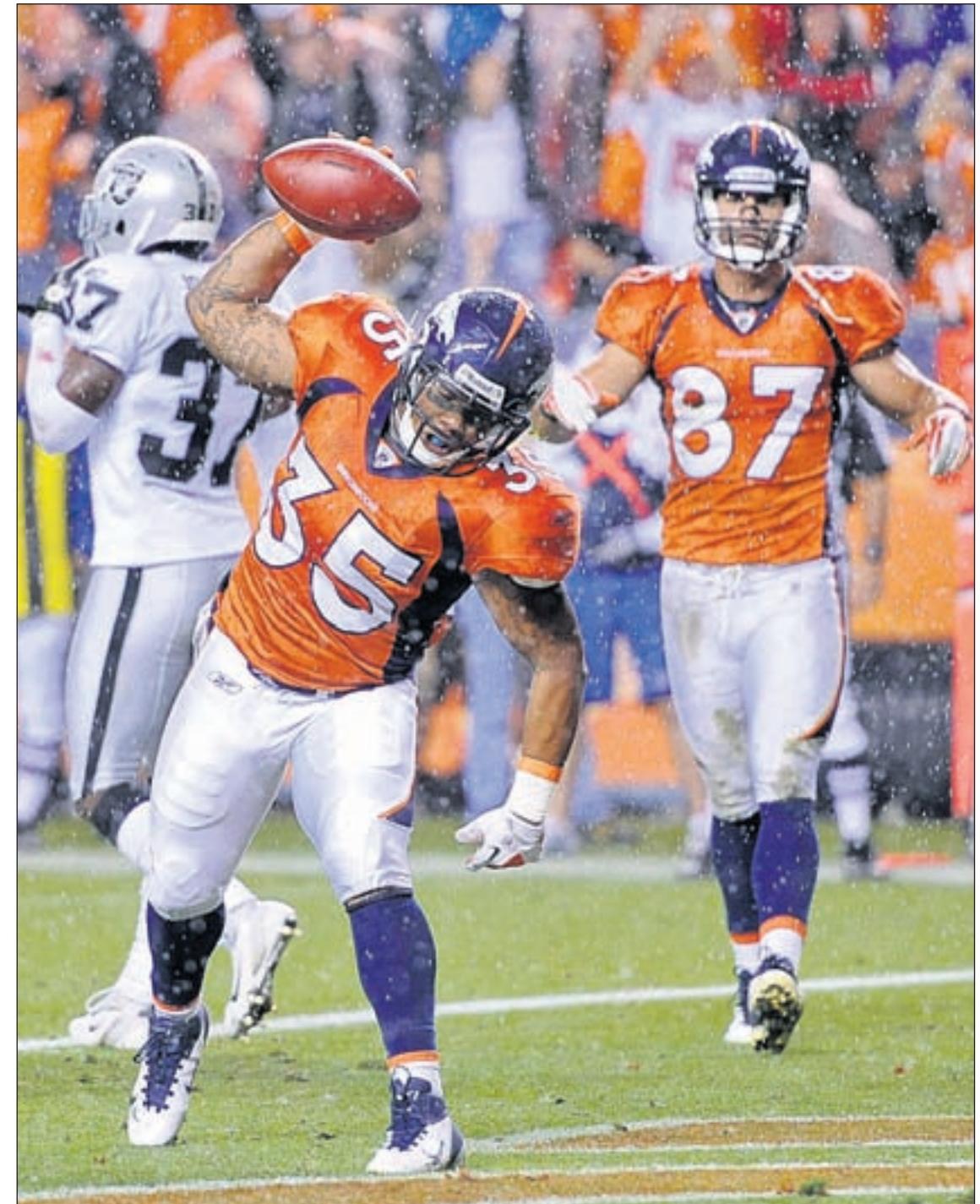
In Miami, New England quarterback Tom Brady threw a rare intercepted pass but was otherwise in command, guiding the Patriots to a 38-24 win over the Miami Dolphins in their NFL season opener Monday.

Brady threw for a team-record 517 yards and four touchdowns, including a 99-yarder to Wes Welker, and the reigning AFC East champions started a season with a victory for the eighth consecutive campaign.

Defensive end Jared Odrick picked off a deflected pass to set up a Miami touchdown and end Brady's NFL-record streak of 358 passes without an interception. Otherwise Brady and the Patriots picked up where they left off last season, when he threw for 36 TDs and his team led the league in scoring.

New England totaled 622 yards, the most in franchise history and the most allowed by Miami.

Brady, who completed 32 of 48 passes, became the 11th quarterback to throw for at least 500 yards in a game. Norm Van Brocklin set the record of 554 yards in 1951.



Denver Broncos running back Lance Ball (35) reacts after scoring a touchdown in the fourth quarter of an NFL football game against the Oakland Raiders, Monday, Sept. 12, 2011, in Denver. The Raiders won 23-20.

Associated Press

The sealer came with 5:44 left and the Patriots leading 31-17. A goal-line stand stopped Miami at the 1-foot line, then Brady

lined up in the shotgun on first down and threw from his end zone to Welker, who had slipped behind his markers near the 30-yard

line. Welker caught the pass in stride and sprinted untouched for the score to complete the longest play in Patriots history. □

DBacks beat Dodgers, close on NL West title

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Arizona's Gerardo Parra tied a career high with four RBIs as the Diamondbacks closed in on the National League West division title with a 7-2 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Monday.

The Diamondbacks reduced the magic number — the combined total of their wins and their closest rival's losses — to seven games to clinch the NL West. Arizona, vying for the fifth division crown in the franchise's 14-year history, has won 17 of its past 20 games to move 24 games over .500, matching its season best.

Diamondbacks starter Joe Saunders (11-12) allowed four hits and walked just one to take the win.

Dodgers starter Ted Lilly (9-14) was charged with three runs in 5 1-3 innings.

Marlins 5, Braves 4, 12 innings In Atlanta, Mike Stanton's single in the 12th inning drove in the go-ahead run that lifted Florida over slumping Atlanta.

The Braves have lost four straight and their once iron



Arizona Diamondbacks' Paul Goldschmidt watches his RBI-single against the Los Angeles Dodgers during the sixth inning of a baseball game, Monday, Sept. 12, 2011, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

grip on the NL wild card is looking increasingly shaky. Atlanta rookie Anthony Varvaro (0-2) walked John Buck to lead off the 12th. Stanton, held out of the starting lineup due to a strained hamstring, lined a pitch into left field for the tiebreaking hit, which delivered the Marlins fourth

straight win. Florida's Clay Hensley (4-6) pitched two scoreless innings and Leo Nunez worked the 12th for his 35th save, despite the Braves loading the bases in the bottom of the ninth with one out.

Pirates 6, Cardinals 5

In Pittsburgh, the hosts ral-

lied with three runs in the eighth inning to edge St. Louis, dealing a blow to the Cardinals playoff hopes. Ryan Doumit tied it 4-4 in the eighth with an RBI double off Marc Rzepczynski (0-2). With the bases loaded and two outs, the little-used Pedro Ciriaco then hit a two-run double to put the Pirates ahead to stay. Joel Hanrahan gave up a run in the ninth but held on for his 37th save, snapping Pittsburgh's three-game skid. With runners at second and third, the All-Star closer struck out Corey Patterson to end it with Albert Pujols on deck as the next batter up.

Pujols earlier hit his NL-leading 35th homer and drove in three runs for St. Louis, which had won five in a row to climb within 4½ games of Atlanta for the NL wild card. The Cardinals also began the day six games behind first-place Milwaukee in the NL Central.

Neil Walker went 3 for 4 with an RBI for the Pirates. Jason Grilli (2-1) worked a perfect eighth for the win.

Astros 5, Phillies 1

In Houston, Carlos Lee hit a two-run homer against his old teammate Roy Oswalt to lift Houston over Philadelphia.

Oswalt (7-9), who pitched 10 seasons for the Astros, faced his former teammates for the first time at Minute Maid Park since he was traded to the Phillies last year.

Despite the loss, Philadelphia's magic number — a sum total of its wins and rivals' losses — for gaining at least a wild-card spot dropped to one with St. Louis' loss to Pittsburgh. The Phillies are trying to make the playoffs for the fifth straight year.

Astros starter Brett Myers (5-13) allowed six hits in eight innings and took the win.

Giants 8, Padres 3

In San Francisco, Carlos Beltran, Cody Ross and Pablo Sandoval homered in a rare show of power by San Francisco, beating San Diego.

Ross also singled, doubled and scored three times to back a solid outing by rookie Eric Surkamp (2-0), who pitched 5 2-3 innings for his second major league victory; both coming against San Diego.

San Francisco, the majors' lowest-scoring team since the All-Star break, put up eight runs for the second straight game. It's the first time the Giants have done that this season.

Cubs 12, Reds 8

In Cincinnati, Starlin Castro homered, scored four runs and drove in three while extending his career-high hitting streak to 13 games, leading Chicago over Cincinnati in the opener of a four-game series.

Reds starter Dontrelle Willis (0-6) gave up three first-inning runs and eight in all, one shy of his career worst, as Cincinnati lost a third straight game.

In other NL games it was Pittsburgh 6, St. Louis 5; Chicago Cubs 12, Cincinnati 8; Florida 5, Atlanta 4, 12 innings; Washington 3, N.Y. Mets 2; Houston 5, Philadelphia 1; Arizona 7, L.A. Dodgers 2; and San Francisco 8, San Diego 3. □

Tigers rout White Sox, streak reaches 10 wins

CHICAGO (AP) — The Detroit Tigers extended their winning streak to 10 games in the American League by routing the Chicago White Sox 14-4 on Monday.

Jhonny Peralta and Ryan Raburn hit back-to-back homers in the second inning to put the Tigers en route to their first double-figure streak since 1968, when they won the World Series. Raburn finished the game with four hits and three RBIs, and Peralta added two hits and three RBIs for the first-place Tigers, who are now 11-1/2 games clear atop the AL Central with only 15 games to go.

Detroit starter Rick Porcello (14-8) coasted to an easy victory, allowing six hits in 6 2-3 innings. White Sox starter John Danks (6-12) lasted five innings and allowed eight runs.

Yankees 9, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Robinson Cano

hit a three-run double to help New York defeat Seattle. Mark Teixeira and Chris Dickerson homered for the Yankees, who increased their lead in the AL East to a season-high four games over Boston. New York starter Phil Hughes (5-5) pitched six strong innings, and the lopsided victory meant Yankees closer Mariano Rivera didn't need to leave the bullpen for a chance at his 600th career save. The Yankees did most of their damage against Seattle starter Felix Hernandez (14-12), last year's AL Cy Young Award winner. He worked six innings, giving up six runs — one fewer than his season worst.

Athletics 6, Angels 3

In Oakland, Josh Willingham hit a homer and drove in four runs to help Oakland beat Los Angeles. Willingham's three-run shot in the first inning off Joel Pineiro (6-



Detroit Tigers manager Jim Leyland, left, shakes hands with second baseman Ryan Raburn after the Tigers' 14-4 win over the Chicago White Sox in a baseball game Monday, Sept. 12, 2011, in Chicago.

Associated Press

7) started a second straight brief outing for the Angels starter at the Coliseum. Pineiro allowed four runs in three-plus innings as the Angels fell three games behind first-place Texas in the AL West.

A's starter Gio Gonzalez (13-12) struck out six and gave up two runs in 6 2-3 innings.

Rays 5, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, B.J. Upton doubled twice and took two walks to set a Tampa Bay

record by reaching base in nine straight plate appearances, and the Rays won their fifth straight by downing Baltimore.

Orioles rookie Zach Britton (9-10) gave up five runs in five innings as Baltimore lost its third straight game.

In other AL games it was Tampa Bay 5, Baltimore 2; Detroit 14, Chicago White Sox 4; Oakland 6, L.A. Angels 3; and N.Y. Yankees 9, Seattle 3. □



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Bolt clocks season best 9.85 in 100 at Zagreb

CIARAN FAHEY

Associated Press

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP) —

Usain Bolt made a cautious start in his first 100 meters since his disqualification at the world championships last month, and still ended up winning in a season-best 9.85 seconds at the Zagreb World Challenge on Tuesday.

Bolt, who false-started in Daegu to end his hopes of defending his world title, shaved 0.03 seconds off his previous fastest time this year — 9.88 at Monaco in June — on a warm, still night.

"It was a poor start," said Bolt, the world and Olympic record-holder. "I kind of lost concentration and just went through the line. It was OK, I suppose, but I could have done better, especially with the weather like that."

Kim Collins of Saint Kitts and Nevis ran a season-best 10.01 seconds to finish second, ahead of Trinidad's Richard Thompson at 10.03. There was standing room only at the 61st Boris Hanzekovic Memorial, where Real Madrid president Florentino Perez and club official Emilio Butragueno arrived in time to see Bolt in action. Madrid kicks off its Champions League campaign at Dinamo Zagreb on Wednesday.

"It was wonderful, the crowd here," Bolt said. "I loved that they were excited and that the fans come up to me. I'm always grateful for that."

However, security had trouble controlling the crowd as "Boltmania" took hold when he celebrated with

delirious fans.

"It's not as bad in Jamaica, where they see me every day," Bolt laughed.

The Jamaican star's news conference was cut short when too many journalists tried to force their way into the room.

The appearance of local favorite Blanka Vlasic in the women's high jump also delighted the home crowd, although she eventually succumbed to world champion Anna Chicherova. Both cleared 2 meters, with Chicherova declared the winner after Vlasic —

who was carrying a leg injury — missed on the first attempt.

"It was important for me to clear 2 meters today. It will be difficult to improve this season," Vlasic said. "I'm delighted that the fans were treated to a spectacular meet because I practically grew up in this stadium."

In the men's 100 hurdles, Cuba's world record holder Dayron Robles beat world champion Jason Richardson for the second race in a row. □



Jamaica's Usain Bolt, center, runs to win the 100m, followed by Kim Collins of Saint Kitts and Nevis, right, and Richard Thompson of Trinidad, left, at the Zagreb Meeting IAAF World Challenge in Zagreb, Croatia, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011.

Associated Press

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This Fall Equinox

My computer's background picture changes depending on what is going on. Having recently returned from a trip to New England, today's picture is a lined country road of shedding trees in fall colors of gold and red. Every autumn I feel full of anticipation. I used to think it was the "eager student" in me seeking academic renewal.

There have been years when this enthusiasm confused me; shouldn't we feel more hopeful in the spring when everything is blooming? However, my background in anthropology reminds me mythology tells the excitement of autumn has to do with harvesting/planting rites and rituals.

Many cultures commemorated the autumn harvest with festivals. In ancient Greece, women participated in a three-day celebration in honor of Demeter, mother/grain goddess and the sowing of seeds. After a fall harvest, there is replanting and hope for what the future yields.

In the spring, we have the flowering and growth but a decrease is on the horizon--the collection of the crops, a death.

In order to honor the Demeter, rites of renewal had to happen in the fall BEFORE spring could occur again (bringing the return of her daughter Persephone). The psychic significance of this pattern is still with us today, and was incorporated into our own farming customs and eventually our

educational school system, including an October school break originally intended for children to be available to participate in the harvest. So it does feel magical in the fall; the future is being re-seeded in each of us; especially when I see my children leave to school.

September 1st is New Year's Day in the Greek religious year.

As the start of the autumn sowing season, Greek farmers take seeds to church to be blessed. Rosh Hashanah began on September 16 this year was the start of the Seven Days of Awe, a chance to make changes on one's personal life in preparation for the festival of atonement, Yom Kippur.

The rabbis wrote, "One is judged on Rosh Hashanah and one's doom is sealed on Yom Kippur."

Four things cross out the doom of a person: righteousness expressed through gifts of charity; real prayer; change of name and change of conduct." Some Jews rename themselves on this day to get a truly new start.

In medieval England, "Michaelmas" on September 29 functioned as the start of a new business year, a time for making contracts, paying rent, hiring servants, holding court and starting school.

Autumn means Halloween; one of the world's oldest holidays, and called by different names, is still celebrated today all around

the globe. This autumn rite is commemorated in the United Kingdom with a distinctive British twist. In Ireland and Canada, Halloween, which was once a frightening and superstitious time of year, is celebrated much as it is in the United States, with trick-or-treating, costume parties, and fun for all ages.

In Mexico, Latin America, and Spain, All Souls' Day, which takes place on November 2, the third day of the three-day Hallowmas observance, is the most important part of the celebration that begins on the evening of October 31. The celebration is designed to honor the dead who, it is believed, return to their earthly homes on Halloween.

Many families construct an altar to the dead in their homes to honor deceased relatives and decorate it with candy, flowers, and photographs, samples of the deceased's favorite foods and drinks, and fresh water. Often, a wash basin and towel are left out so that the spirit can wash before indulging in the feast. Candles and incense are burned to help the deceased find the way home.

Here in Aruba, as in all of Latin America, we tidy the gravesites of our departed family members.

This can include snipping weeds, making repairs, and painting. The grave is then decorated with flowers, or wreaths.

Our sensitivity to the

changes in light and the coming shorter days, even here in Aruba is part of the importance of this pattern. It has to get dark before it can get light again.

"Primitively, perhaps light results from darkness; the darkness covers the light, and, just as a man awakes with the light, so light appears when the darkness is lifted from it, like a lid".

Your psyche is aware that this change in seasonal patterns of light and dark signals the time for regeneration.

Traditional Chinese medicine sees our individual bodies as a reflection of what is happening seasonally on our planet.

Appropriately, we can discuss the harvest of our health. After identifying and removing toxins in our bodies and absorbing the beneficial foods and supplements for our metabolic body types, we start to reap the benefits of health.

True health is more than the absence of disease and includes having the vibrant energy to live life fully.

With a solid great health foundation, we can start developing our anti-aging strategies.

Get The Point! I think it is important to identify and honor autumnal feelings of hope with new personal health rituals of our own; especially as our culture becomes increasingly hectic. Take time to construct your own ritual, with candles and light, to honor your love of this



By: Dr. Carlos Viana

time of regeneration. Make an appointment for a medical consultation so we can show you how. Take some time to reflect and make it a chance to make changes in your personal life in preparation for a healthy future.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7 -TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

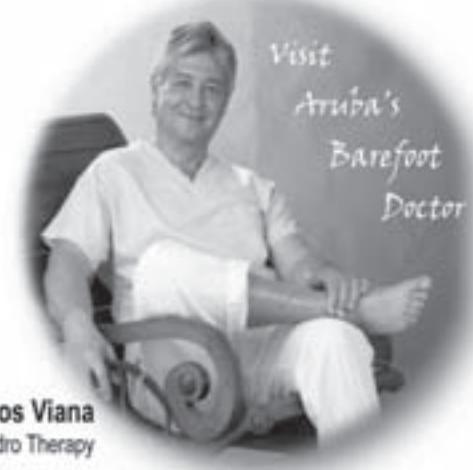
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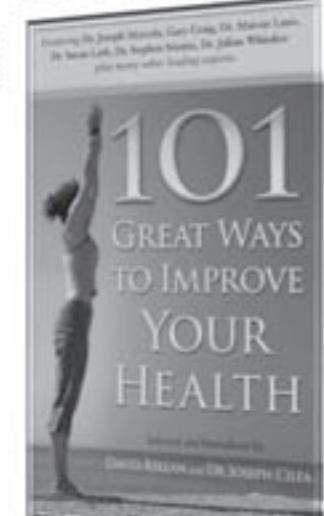


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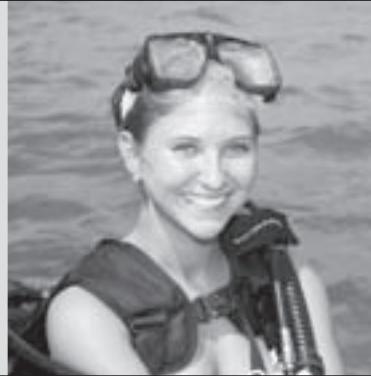
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Google to offer location opt-out to Wi-Fi owners

MICHAEL LIEDTKE**AP Technology Writer****SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —

Google Inc. is going to let people with home wireless networks decide whether they want to be lumped into a system that helps pinpoint the locations of people on cell phones.

The concession announced Tuesday will give wireless, or Wi-Fi, networks the right to forbid Google

from listing them in a vast database that the company has been building in the past few years.

The adjustment is a response to concerns raised in Europe. Regulators there have periodically looked into whether Google's mapping services violate Europe's privacy laws.

To avoid trouble, Google is working on a way for owners of Wi-Fi networks



Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat, center rides a Google Street View tricycle as managing director of Google Israel Meir Brand stands by, following a press conference in Jerusalem, Monday, Sept. 12, 2011. Google's Street View will soon provide virtual visitors a glimpse of the narrow stone-paved alleyways of Jerusalem's Old City and tourist destinations in Israel. Google deploys cameras mounted on cars and other vehicles to take Street View's 360-degree images, which users of the Web site can then view by zooming in on any given point on a map.

Associated Press

Dutch legislators get iPads, go fully digital

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Dutch senators have begun using 21st-century tablet computers in their 17th-century meeting hall in an effort to eliminate the mountain of paper they used to generate.

The First Chamber of Dutch parliament claims to be the first legislature in Europe to completely scrap paper and distribute proposed law changes and all other documents to senators via a specially developed app.

The move introduced Tuesday means senators will put iPads on their green cloth-covered desks of Parliament's upper house instead of mounds of paper.

The Senate said in a statement that buying iPads for all 75 senators and developing the app cost some euro148,000 (\$200,000), but the savings in printing and courier costs would amount to more than euro142,000 (\$194,000) in the first year. □

TechCrunch founder leaving AOL-owned blog

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Arrington, founder of the popular technology blog TechCrunch, is leaving the blog and its owner, AOL, to work on the venture capital fund he recently started. Arrington, 41, sold TechCrunch to AOL nearly a year ago. When he and AOL CEO Tim Armstrong announced the acquisition last September, Arrington had said he expected to stay with the company for at least three years. In a statement, AOL spokeswoman Maureen Sullivan said the "TechCrunch acquisition has been a success for AOL and for our shareholders, and we are very excited about its future."

"Michael is a world-class entrepreneur and we look forward to supporting his new endeavor through our investment in his venture fund," she said.

Arrington started his venture capital firm with an initial \$20 million. Its investors include AOL as well as venture capital firms such as Greylock partners, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers and Sequoia Capital.

Erick Schonfeld, who joined TechCrunch in 2007, has been named its editor. □

throughout the world to tell the company to back off. The opt-out choice will be available this autumn, according to a blog posted Tuesday by Peter Fleischer, Google's top privacy counsel.

Like other Internet companies increasingly interested in targeting people on the go, Google relies on the publicly broadcast signals from neighborhood Wi-Fi networks to get a better handle on locations of cell phone users.

The Wi-Fi database helps fill in coverage gaps created by inaccurate information from cell phone towers or the unavailability of global positioning system, or GPS, technology.

Apple Inc. made a programming change earlier this year that the company promised would prevent its iPhone from automatically collecting data from Wi-Fi

networks.

Google, the maker of the Android software used on millions of smartphones, believes people online benefit when their physical whereabouts are known.

The information, for instance, could be used to deliver discount offers from nearby merchants — something that could also boost Google's revenue by selling more ads — or to let someone at a bus stop know how much longer they have to wait to be picked up.

But regulators and privacy watchdogs worry the location databases being maintained by Google and others could turn into tracking services that compile histories of people's movements.

Google says it has never kept any records on the locations of individuals.

Google, which is based in Mountain View, also says it

doesn't identify the names of people who own the Wi-Fi networks feeding its location service. Even so, "We think we can go further in protecting people's privacy," Fleischer wrote Tuesday.

The company lost some credibility among privacy experts last year when it revealed that cars collecting information for its online mapping service had been vacuuming up emails and other personal information transmitted over neighborhood Wi-Fi networks in the U.S., Europe and other parts of the world. Google blamed the intrusion on an unauthorized program set up by one of its engineers. The Wi-Fi intrusions resulted in repeated Google apologies, regulatory fines and a promise by the company to tighten its privacy controls over its nearly 30,000 employees. □

Stocks edge higher

2nd day in a row

MATTHEW CRAFT

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — General Electric Co. and other industrial companies pushed stocks higher after another choppy session Tuesday, the second day of gains in a row.

It was the first back-to-back gain since the last week of August and only the third time the market has closed higher this month. On the five days the market closed lower in September, the Dow Jones industrial average lost between 100 and 303 points.

The Dow rose 44.73 points, or 0.4 percent, to close at 11,105.85. The Dow moved between small gains and losses for much of the day, then turned higher in the last half-hour.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 10.60, or 0.9 percent, to 1,172.87.

Trading was quiet compared with the many wild swings the market has had since early August. The Dow traded in a range of just 153 points, the narrowest since July 26. The average daily range during August was twice as big, 337 points. The last time the Dow traded in a larger range was November 2008, at the peak of the financial crisis.

Investors have been struggling with uncertainty over the European debt crisis and questions over which way the U.S. economy is going, said Ryan Detrick, senior technical strategist at Schaeffer's Investment Research. That fear of the unknown has made markets especially volatile. Traders seem to be hanging on every piece of news or rumor out of Europe.

"It's a difficult environment for a long-term investor," Detrick said. "Any news can take you significantly higher or lower. There's just so much volatility."

European markets rose broadly Tuesday. Major French banks soared after BNP Paribas denied that it had trouble borrowing dollars from other banks and investors in short-term cred-



Euro coins are photographed in Frankfurt, Germany, Monday, Sept. 12, 2011. Mounting fears over the possibility of a Greek debt default and signs of division within Europe's policymaking circles over how to deal with the crippling crisis combined Monday to send bank stocks sharply lower.

Associated Press

it markets.

Italy's finance minister also confirmed that officials had met with China's sovereign wealth fund about buying Italian bonds. A report that China may buy Italian government bonds helped

U.S. stock indexes eke out slight gains Monday. All of the gains came in a sudden burst of buying in the last 15 minutes of trading.

Detrick says the uncertainty has started to drive retail investors out of stocks. □

Business Briefs

GE to buy back shares from Berkshire

NEW YORK (AP) — General Electric Co. says it is offering to pay \$3.3 billion to buy back preferred shares bought by Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. during the depths of the financial crisis.

GE said in a regulatory filing Tuesday that it has mailed its offer to Berkshire, which is based in Omaha, Nebraska. The \$3.3 billion price for the shares includes a 10 percent premium. GE, based in Fairfield, Connecticut, is also offering to pay accrued and unpaid dividends through the redemption date of Oct. 17.

Berkshire invested \$3 billion in GE in October 2008. The move amounted to a huge vote of confidence in the iconic company that had been battered by the financial meltdown. □

ConAgra sets deadline for Ralcorp buyout

OMAHA, Nebraska (AP) — ConAgra Foods Inc. is giving Ralcorp Holdings Inc. a week to start talking about its takeover proposal.

The ultimatum sent Ralcorp's shares down \$7.64, or 9 percent, to \$77.50 in aftermarket trading.

ConAgra, which owns brands like Chef Boyardee, Orville Redenbacher's and Healthy Choice, repeated its latest bid for \$5.17 billion cash, or \$94 per share. The Omaha company says Ralcorp, of St. Louis, has until 5 p.m. Monday to start discussions or it will walk away.

Ralcorp has rejected several bids from ConAgra since March, including turning down the \$94-per-share offer last month.

A Ralcorp representative could not immediately be reached for comment. The company has said its plan to spin off its Post cereal business to focus on its private-label foods business will provide better value for shareholders. □

Census: Poverty rate swells to nearly 1 in 6

By HOPE YEN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The ranks of America's poor swelled to almost 1 in 6 people last year, reaching a new high as long-term unemployment left millions of Americans struggling and out of work. The number of uninsured edged up to 49.9 million, the biggest in more than two decades. The Census Bureau's annual report released Tuesday offers a snapshot of the economic well-being of U.S. households for 2010, when joblessness hovered above 9 percent for a second year. It comes at a politically sensitive time for President Barack Obama, who has acknowledged in the midst of a re-election fight that the unemployment rate could persist at high levels through next year.

The overall poverty rate climbed to 15.1 percent, or 46.2 million, up from 14.3 percent in 2009. The official poverty level is an annual income of \$22,314 for a family of four. Reflecting the lingering impact of the recession, the U.S. poverty rate from 2007-2010 has now risen faster than any three-year period since the early 1980s, when a crippling energy crisis amid government cutbacks contributed to inflation, spiraling interest rates and unemployment.

Measured by total numbers, the 46 million now living in poverty is the largest on record dating back to when the census began tracking poverty in 1959. Based on percentages, it tied the poverty level in 1993 and was the highest since 1983.

Broken down by state, Mississippi had the highest share of poor people, at 22.7 percent, according to calculations by the Census Bureau. It was followed by Louisiana, the District of Columbia, Georgia, New Mexico and Arizona. On the other end of the scale, New Hampshire had the lowest share, at 6.6 percent.

The share of Americans without health coverage rose from 16.1 percent to 16.3 percent — or 49.9 million people — after the Census Bureau made revisions to numbers of the uninsured. That is due mostly to continued losses of employer-provided health insurance in the weakened economy.

Congress passed a health overhaul last year to deal with rising numbers of the uninsured.

While the main provisions do not take effect until 2014, one aspect taking effect in late 2010 allowed young adults until age 26 to be covered under their parents' health insurance.

Brett O'Hara, chief of the Health and Disability Statistics branch at the Census Bureau, noted that the uninsured rate for adults ages 18 to 24 declined last year — from 29.3 percent to 27.2 percent. It was the only age group which posted a decrease.

"For the change in uninsured, the law change certainly could be a factor," he said.

The median — or midpoint — household income was \$49,445, down 2.3 percent from 2009.

The latest numbers, which cover Obama's second year in office, offer political fodder for both parties as Obama seeks to push a new \$447 billion plan for creating jobs and stimulating the economy. The plan includes a proposed payroll tax cut and an extension of unemployment benefits.

Obama is urging Congress to pay for the new spending largely by increasing taxes on the wealthy, which Republicans have rejected emphatically.

On Tuesday, the Census Bureau noted the impact of government safety-net programs on the poor. It estimated that new unemployment benefits passed in 2009, which gave workers up to 99 weeks of payments after a layoff, and did not run out for most people until this year, lifted 3.2 million above the poverty line. □



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Armrest wars: Flights are fuller than ever

By SCOTT MAYEROWITZ

AP Airlines Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Don't expect much elbow room on flights this fall. Planes have never been so full. There was barely a spare seat this summer, and the next few months should be the same. To the list of things airlines have taken away — hot meals, blankets, headphones — you can add personal space.

For airlines and the people who invest in them, it makes sense. Because of consolidation, partnerships and a push to eliminate unprofitable routes, airlines can adjust schedules to match demand and charge more. But customer comfort is an afterthought. Not to mention space in the overhead bin. "There are some days on some flights when there are simply no physical seats left," says Jim Reichart, vice president of marketing and sales for Frontier, which sold 91 percent of its seats in July and August. Frontier and US Airways both had their best August for percentage of seats filled. The

figures shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone who fought over an armrest this summer. With 130 million people flying, little perks like empty middle seats or flying standby were hard to come by.

Airline executives used to add flights and routes to protect market share. This often meant there were more seats than travelers.

"In the past we had the problem of people operating airlines based on ego," says airline consultant Michael Boyd. "Now they're operating on the basis on how much money they can make."

Overall, 86.4 percent of seats were filled by paying customers in July and August, according to an Associated Press analysis of preliminary data reported by 16 major U.S. airlines. That edges last summer's record of 86.3 percent.

Add in seats occupied by off-duty airline staff, who often fly free, and passengers who redeemed frequent-flier miles, and there was hardly any room this sum-



In this Aug. 3, 2011 file photo, airline passengers go through the Transportation Security Administration security checkpoint at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta.

Associated Press

mer.

Analysts say there may be more space this fall, but not much, if the economy slows further. Either way, flights around Thanksgiving and Christmas will be packed. And fuller flights anytime mean you're less likely to get a seat if your flight is canceled.

Airlines generally lose money on empty seats because they are already paying for

fuel, pilots and flight attendants. But how many seats are filled is only one factor in airline profitability. Airlines have to make enough money from fares and fees to cover fuel and labor costs. All the major airlines except American have made money this year. United charged about 8 percent more for each seat in July than last year, and 11 percent more in August.

Until 1978, regulation limited airline competition, allowing them to make money even when planes weren't full. In more recent years, technology has allowed airlines to routinely schedule full flights — and cutthroat competition has forced them to.

In the early 1970s, before airlines were deregulated, about half of seats were sold. □

Airlines collect \$783M in bag fees in 1st quarter

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. airlines collected slightly more in baggage fees in the first three months of the year as the number of travelers increased. The nation's largest airlines reported baggage fees of about \$783.7 million in the first three months of the year. That's up nearly 2 percent from the \$768.5 million they collected in the same period last year. The airlines carried about 2.4 percent more travelers in the first quarter than they did in the same period a year before. Passengers also paid more reservation fees.

Airlines took in \$592 million in charges to change plans in the first quarter, compared with about \$554 million a year earlier. The data were released Tuesday by the Transportation Department's Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

Fees for reservation changes and bags are the only ones that the government can identify separately. The DOT said in July that it's considering a rule that would require airlines to report 16 additional categories of fee revenue. □

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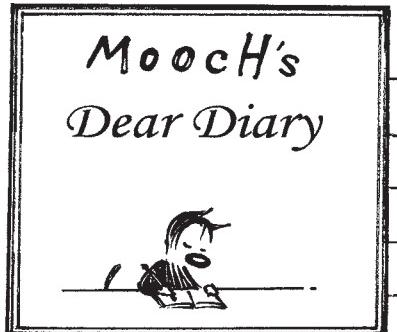
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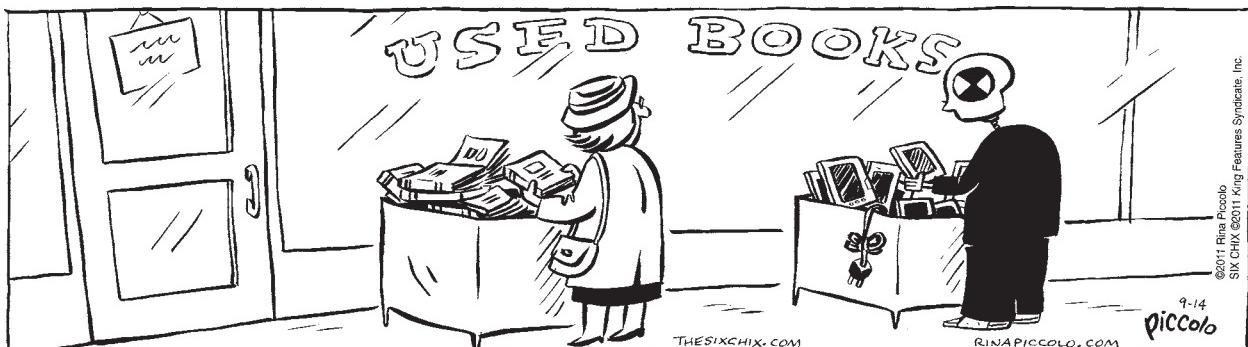


DREAMED I WAS
SLEEPING IN THE
LAUNDRY BASKET.
— TURNED OUT I WAS.

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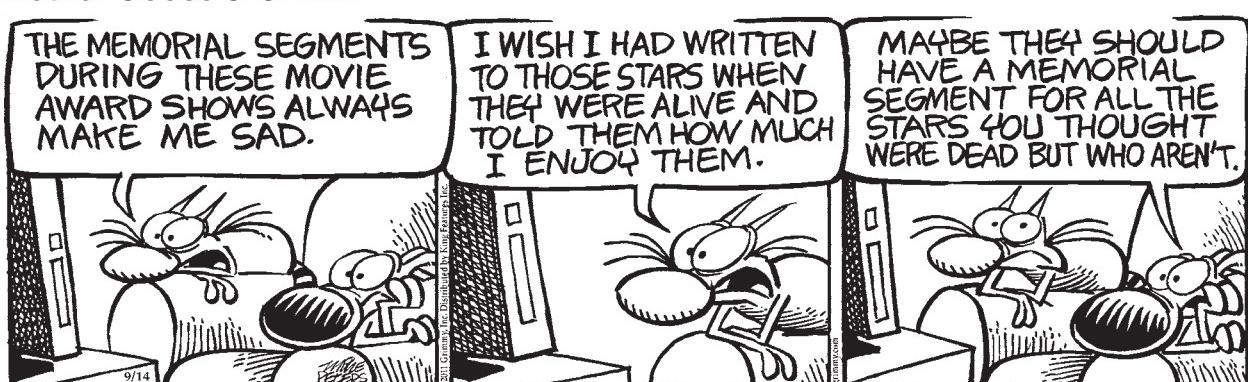
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Conceptis Sudoku

6	3						8	5
4		5					2	3
2			5	1	3			4
	8						1	
1			3	7			6	
9							7	
3			9	5	6			8
	6						5	
2	4	7	8	6				

Difficulty Level ★★★

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9/14

Yesterday's puzzle answer

7	6	1	2	4	5	3	8	9
3	4	2	9	6	8	1	7	5
8	5	9	1	7	3	2	4	6
6	8	5	3	1	7	9	2	4
9	2	3	6	8	4	7	5	1
4	1	7	5	2	9	6	3	8
5	9	6	8	3	2	4	1	7
2	7	8	4	9	1	5	6	3
1	3	4	7	5	6	8	9	2

ACROSS

- 1 After-dinner candy
- 5 Web-footed aquatic animal
- 10 Cancer the __; zodiac sign
- 14 Concept
- 15 Singer Donna
- 16 Residence
- 17 Got away
- 18 Water barriers
- 20 Nourished
- 21 Not at all spicy
- 22 Some golf tournaments
- 23 Crummy
- 25 Edison's initials
- 26 Detective
- 28 Home of the Cowboys
- 31 Composer and pianist Franz
- 32 Passes over
- 34 __ away with; eliminated
- 36 Additionally
- 37 Backbone
- 38 Boy or man
- 39 Buddy
- 40 Gleamed
- 41 Poultry shop purchase
- 42 Young swan
- 44 Girl's bow
- 45 Possessed
- 46 Main artery
- 47 Mistake
- 50 Spill the beans
- 51 Small flap
- 54 Truces
- 57 Evergreen tree
- 58 Male red deer
- 59 Turn aside
- 60 Charged atoms
- 61 Mine deposits
- 62 Gingrich and others
- 63 Tiny biting fly

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21						22				
											23	24		
26	27										28		29	
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31											32	33		
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36					37							38		
39				40							41			
					42	43					44			
							45				46			
47	48	49						50				51	52	53
54											55	56		57
58											59		60	
61											62		63	

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/14/11

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

D	R	A	P	E	A	J	A	R	P	A	L	E
R	I	P	E	N	F	A	R	E	A	M	A	N
A	D	E	P	T	T	R	E	E	R	O	R	D
B	E	D	T	I	M	S	E	B	E	M	U	S
I	C	E	R	C	O	V	E	R	D	E	V	E
F	O	R	C	E	L	D	A	L	A	K	S	E
A	G	E	D	A	L	N	A	D	I	R	N	D
C	L	A	P	L	A	G	E	R	N	U	D	E
T	E	P	I	D	S	I	D	E	O	L	D	O
T	O	A	S	T	A	R	I	S	E	S	S	S
J	A	L	I	S	C	O	F	R	O	G		
A	M	U	L	E	T	R	E	S	N			
W	I	N	E	D	A	I	P	O	L			
E	G	G	N	E	R	A	E	R	E			
D	O	E	S	G	E	L	S	D	E			

9/14/11

- 7 __ on; crushed underfoot
- 8 Sense of self-esteem
- 9 Curtain holder
- 10 Small church
- 11 Learned by __; memorized
- 12 Sherman Hemley series
- 13 Mrs. Truman
- 14 Hockey scores
- 15 Possessed
- 16 Main artery
- 17 Mistake
- 18 Small flap
- 19 Truces
- 20 Evergreen tree
- 21 Male red deer
- 22 Young swan
- 23 Girl's bow
- 24 Greek liqueur
- 25 Scotch __; sticky strip
- 26 Swat
- 27 Purple shade
- 28 Eat
- 29 Movie based on a book, e.g.
- 30 Tail, cylindrical storage towers
- 31 Phantoms
- 32 Seashores
- 33 Relatives
- 34 For no reason
- 35 Small child
- 36 Refuse to admit
- 37 Lean-to
- 38 Shopping place
- 39 Trap
- 40 Sidewalk edge
- 41 Phantoms
- 42 Seashores
- 43 Relatives
- 44 For no reason
- 45 Small child
- 46 Refuse to admit
- 47 Lean-to
- 48 Make tea
- 49 Uncommon
- 50 Maria Alberghetti
- 51 Best
- 52 Maria Alberghetti
- 53 Best
- 54 Cooling device
- 55 TV's "Got a Secret"
- 56 Sty resident

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Hot new planet could be in habitable zone _ barely

SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Astronomers believe they have found a second planet outside our solar system that seems to be in the right zone for life, just barely. But it would feel like a steam bath — hot, sticky and beyond uncomfortable. European astronomers announced the discovery

Monday along with about 50 other planets outside our solar system at a U.S. conference. The most exciting of those planets is only the second to be confirmed as lying in what astronomers call the habitable zone, or the Goldilocks zone. That means it is not too hot and not too cold for liquid water to be present. Water is the key to a planet being



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This undated handout image provided by The European Southern Observatory shows a close-up of the sky around the star HD 85512.

Associated Press

able to support Earth-like life, scientists say. Only one of the past discoveries of such Goldilocks planets has

held up. That was a planet found in 2007. And even this new one comes with an asterisk: The planet would



need to have water and be a rocky, solid planet like Earth, not one that's primarily gas like Jupiter. The new planet is about 3.6 times the mass of Earth. Temperatures there may range from 85 to 120 degrees (30 to 50 Celsius) with plenty of humidity. "It's going to be really muggy, just think about the muggiest (Washington) day you can think of," said study author Lisa Kaltenegger, an astronomer with the Max Planck Institute in Germany. "We're not saying it's habitable for you and me." But other types of life — probably shorter and squatter life — could conceivably take root there, she said. They would probably be closer to the ground than humans because gravity on this larger-than-Earth planet is about 1.4 times what we experience, she said. For it to be considered livable by astronomers, at least 60 percent of it would have to be covered in clouds, said Kaltenegger. Earth has about 50 percent cloud cover, so 60 percent seems reasonable, she said. The new planet, called HD85512b, closely circles a star about 35 light-years from Earth in the constellation Vela. Each light-year is 5.8 trillion miles. A year there is only 60 days. The only reason it might not be too hot for life is that its sun is about 1,800 degrees (1,000 Celsius) cooler than our sun, Kaltenegger said.

The new batch of planets, including the potentially habitable one, were found by the European Southern Observatory's special planet-hunting instrument called HARPS is based in Chile. The finding doubles the number of planets that are closer to Earth in mass than those closer to Jupiter's size. □

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Singer Jordin Sparks attends the Cinema Society premiere of "I Don't Know How She Does It", in New York, on Monday, Sept. 12, 2011.

(AP Photo/Peter Kramer)

Juggling work, home in sitcommy 'Don't Know How'

CHRISTY LEMIRE

AP Movie Critic

When you're a wife and working mother, there's this inescapable, self-imposed pressure to do everything right all the time. The idea of having it all — a great job and a loving family, a toned body and a sane mind — is as appealing as it is elusive.

You're constantly letting someone down sometime, which leads to guilt, which leads to more stress — which leads to even more sleepless nights, which doesn't help anybody. "I Don't Know How She Does It," based on the best-selling novel of the same name, gets that dynamic, that incessant juggling act, and the ways in which we self-flagellate in trying to perfect it. This is not exactly a new concept but it's increasingly prevalent — the complications are greater these days than ever — and director Douglas McGrath finds just the right tone in depicting that.

Sometimes. Too often, though, he smothers those nuggets of insight with a jaunty, sitcommy tone, with gags that are telegraphed from a mile away and music that works awfully hard to cue our emotional responses. You know the second that a character speaks wistfully of going bowling as a kid that we will eventually end up at a bowling alley. And just as surely, our heroine's seemingly insurmountable troubles will get wrapped up at a snappy pace and in a speedy running time.

It doesn't help that Sarah Jessica Parker, as the film's star, chimes in early and often with voiceovers that sound exactly like the kinds of observations she used to make as Carrie on "Sex and the City," the role with which she will be eternally, intrinsically tied. □

Playing jazz-piano homage to the memory of Monk

BEN RATLIFF

© 2011 New York Times

WASHINGTON — Hod Moshonov, a 22-year-old pianist from Israel, had already loosened his tie by 1 p.m. Sunday, and his wine-colored dress shirt was coming loose from his waist. Super-revved, he seemed to dump his whole conception of jazz on the instrument.

He leaned into the grand piano and damped the

section. He played "The Summer Knows," from Michel Legrand's "Summer of '42" soundtrack, and then turned "Blue Monk" three ways — reharmonized, stride-style and as a stomping shuffle. It was the only time all afternoon that the audience started to clap and shout.

Aside from the imposing panel of judges — Herbie Hancock, Ellis Marsalis, Danilo Perez, Renee Rosnes,

phone number and suggested they work together. She told him that "Summer of '42" meant a lot to her because she was born that year.

The Monk competition is many things: thrilling, strange, boring. Musicians play unaccompanied and with a trio, with one Monk tune as a prerequisite. The process can become an unsolvable puzzle. It is a performance, an occasion to demonstrate presence of mind, but for each contestant it is also a canned and unnatural 10 minutes. You must be memorable, but you can't overdo it. Most people agree that jazz lives on originality, but you must prove yourself a proper custodian of the past. You want to create immediate gratification, but the implication of the first prize is that you'll be a responsible bandleader, carrying jazz forward.

The event — the most visible part of the institute's educational initiative, which includes high-school pro-



Jennifer Hudson performs at a gala concert for the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, Sept. 12, 2011. Kris Bowers from Los Angeles but now a New Yorker, won the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition, receiving the \$25,000 first prize.

(Andrew Councill/The New York Times)

strings, playing muted percussive melodies with his right hand alone. Then some classical Romantic fantasias, leading into aggressive versions of Thelonious Monk's "Think of One" and Freddie Hubbard's "Birdlike." He sang along to his rhapsodic improvising and beatboxed against his rhythms. It was an exhausting 10 minutes.

Moshonov was the first of 12 to compete in the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition here Sunday, presented by the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz. Despite his abundant talent, he was the first to fall. He did not make the finals. Kris Bowers, 22, from Los Angeles but now a New Yorker, played a little after the halfway point Sunday and the next day he won the \$25,000 first prize.

What did Bowers have that the judges wanted? Polish, understatement, breadth. He made the piano sound clear and pleasing, and he got along with the rhythm



Kris Bowers during the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Piano Competition at The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, Sept. 12, 2011. Bowers from Los Angeles but now a New Yorker, won the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition, receiving the \$25,000 first prize.

(Andrew Councill/The New York Times)

and Jason Moran — Aretha Franklin was sitting in the auditorium at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History. (She would be awarded the Monk Institute's Maria Fisher Founder's Award, and sing in the gala concert Monday night at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.) She sought out Bowers backstage, got his tele-

grams and a tuition-free master's program at UCLA for eight students at a time — began 25 years ago, in 1986. Winning first prize does not guarantee fame but it helps, especially at a time when many jazz bandleaders do their own publicity via Twitter, and a deal with Concord Records, a label with a publicity department, comes with it. □

British pop artist Richard Hamilton dies at 89

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Pop Art pioneer Richard Hamilton, who depicted Tony Blair as a cowboy and designed a Beatles album cover, has died. He was 89. The Gagosian Gallery, which represents Hamilton, said the artist died early Tuesday at an undisclosed location in Britain. It did not give the cause of death.

The gallery said that with his death, "the art world has lost one of its leading figures." It said Hamilton's influence on younger artists was "immeasurable."

Hamilton was often called the "Father of Pop Art" — Britain's answer to Andy Warhol — and was credited with coining the name for a movement marked by its ironic and iconic use of commercial and pop-culture imagery.

Born in London in 1922, Hamilton studied at the Royal Academy Schools and the Slade School of Fine Art, and made his name in the 50s with "Just What Is It That Makes Today's Homes So Different, So Appealing?" A collage showing a physically idealized naked couple — the man holding a red lollipop marked "Pop" — in a product-strewn home, it was a seminal work of Pop Art.

For half a century Hamilton produced images that were striking and often political, from Mick Jagger in



Photo shows pop art pioneer Richard Hamilton. The Gagosian Gallery, which represents Hamilton, said the artist died early Tuesday Sept. 13, 2011 at an undisclosed location in Britain. It did not give the cause of death. Hamilton was 89.

(AP Photo/ Peter J Jordan/PA)

handcuffs after a drug raid to portraits of prison protesters in Northern Ireland to an image of former British leader Blair as a cowboy in a 2007 piece entitled "Shock and Awe."

One of his best-known works is the antithesis of Pop Art's colorful cacophony: the monochrome cover of The Beatles' "White Album," a simple white square embossed with the band's name. Hamilton also designed the collage-style poster that came with the album.

In an interview last year with The Guardian newspaper, Hamilton said he was "surprised how little" he was paid for the cover — only 200 pounds. □

Rapper pleads guilty to battery, will go to jail

DECATUR, Georgia (AP)

— Authorities in suburban Atlanta say rapper Gucci Mane will serve six months in jail after pleading guilty to battery and other charges.

DeKalb County Solicitor-General Sherry Boston said Tuesday that Mane, whose real name is Radric Delantic Davis, pleaded guilty to two counts of battery, two counts of reckless conduct and one count of disorderly conduct.

A police report said Davis

pushed 36-year-old Diana Graham out of his Hummer as it rolled down a suburban Atlanta street on Jan. 28.

State Court Judge Eleanor Ross sentenced the rapper to serve six months in custody followed by several months on probation. The judge also ordered him to complete 12 weeks of anger management classes; pay \$5,091 in restitution to the woman for her medical bills; and pay a \$3,000 fine. □

Still unearthing artist de Kooning's brush strokes



John Elderfield, Museum of Modern Art chief curator emeritus of painting and sculpture, stands in front of a photograph taken by Rudy Burckhardt of Willem de Kooning working in his studio on a piece called "Woman I," at the de Kooning retrospective exhibit at the museum, in New York, Sept. 9, 2011. To create the de Kooning retrospective the curators of the exhibit had to go on a art history treasure hunt.

(Librado Romero/The New York Times)

CAROL VOGEL

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NEW YORK — The first thing visitors will see at the entrance to the Museum of Modern Art's sprawling Willem de Kooning retrospective, which opens Sunday, is a wall of photographs that chronicle six stages in the creation of the legendary painting "Woman I" (1950-52). John Elderfield, MoMA's chief curator emeritus of painting and sculpture, said he chose these images as a starting point because they illustrate "that de Kooning was an artist about process."

For the last six years Elderfield has immersed himself in the work of de Kooning, who helped define the shape of postwar art in America. The artist, who died in 1997, was especially known for his large and luscious canvases of riotous brush strokes and curving forms, and for his preoccupation with the female figure, a subject he returned to in different guises throughout his career. Elderfield has a big story to tell. The exhibition includes some 200 works made over nearly seven decades — paintings, drawings, prints

and sculptures — and occupies the museum's entire 17,000-square-foot sixth floor, a first for an exhibition since MoMA reopened after its expansion in 2004. It is also the first comprehensive look at de Kooning's work in nearly 30 years (The Whitney Museum of American Art held the last thorough retrospective in 1983.) "This is an artist people want to know of," Elderfield said, adding that he believed de Kooning would be "rediscovered by a new generation." Because the price of postwar art has escalated so drastically over the last few years, with major works by de Kooning fetching astronomical prices, the show, which consists primarily of loans, is costing MoMA greatly. While the museum will not give an exact figure, experts familiar with the retrospective say it includes more than \$4 billion worth of art: an enormously costly group of works to transport and insure, making it perhaps the most expensive exhibition in the institution's history. Delving into the career of a master like de Kooning would seem unlikely to yield discoveries, given

that his story has been told so many times, including in a biography that won a Pulitzer Prize in 2005: his arrival in New York from his native Netherlands as a stowaway in 1926; his hard-drinking life in cold-water lofts; his first one-man show at 44; and his eventual fame as the artist who epitomized the improvisational bravura of Abstract Expressionism. (De Kooning's waning years are well known too: In the 1980s he was given a diagnosis of dementia, and in 1989 he was declared incompetent by his lawyer and his daughter, Lisa.) But Elderfield approached his subject as if on an art historical treasure hunt. As he started working on the exhibition, one clue led to another and another, until he was able to piece together new insights from technical studies, photographs, popular postwar films and even magazine clips about movie stars of the day. "He's someone whose art is hard to get your hands around," said Elderfield, standing in the middle of the exhibition's galleries on a recent morning as the last few paintings were being hung. □

The President's do-over



ROSS DOUTHAT

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A week after President Barack Obama took the oath of office, Alice Rivlin, budget chief to President Bill Clinton, testified before a Congress that was about to consider sweeping stimulus legislation. In her remarks, Rivlin voiced her support for a swift and substantial federal intervention to prop up the sagging economy. But she offered lawmakers three warnings as well.

The first warning was about the design of the stimulus. The ideal anti-recession package, Rivlin told Congress, would include aid to state governments, extended unemployment benefits, money for genuinely "shovel ready" projects and a payroll tax holiday. But she urged Congress to resist the temptation to combine these kinds of short-term recession-fighting measures with a larger and more costly investment in energy, education and infrastructure. Trying to rush a long-term spending package through in an atmosphere of crisis, she cautioned, would only guarantee that its contents would be poorly designed, and much of its spending wasted.

The second warning was about setting expectations. Given the nature of the financial crisis and the nasty overhang of debt it left behind, any recovery would probably be slow even with a stimulus bill. Policymakers "should be skeptical of all forecasts," she told Congress, "and especially conscious of the risk that things may continue to go worse than expected."

The third warning was about how to handle the problem of deficits, which already shadowed the stimulus debate. "We do not have the luxury of waiting until the economy recovers before taking actions to bring down projected future deficits," Rivlin said. Instead, she urged Congress to take action "this year" on entitlement spending, and to prioritize Medicare reforms over a more comprehensive health care overhaul.

With these three warnings, Rivlin anticipated everything

the Obama White House and the Democratic Congress would do wrong over the next two years.

First, instead of passing a targeted anti-recession package, congressional Democrats crammed the stimulus bill with spending on everything from Head Start and Pell Grants to high-speed rail and renewable-energy projects. The hope was that the legislation would do more than just kick-start a recovery: It would lay a new foundation for the economy, with an electric car in every garage and a Solyndra solar panel on every roof. The result, predictably, was a bill that looked less like a temporary exercise in crisis management and more like the Democratic Party's permanent wish list.

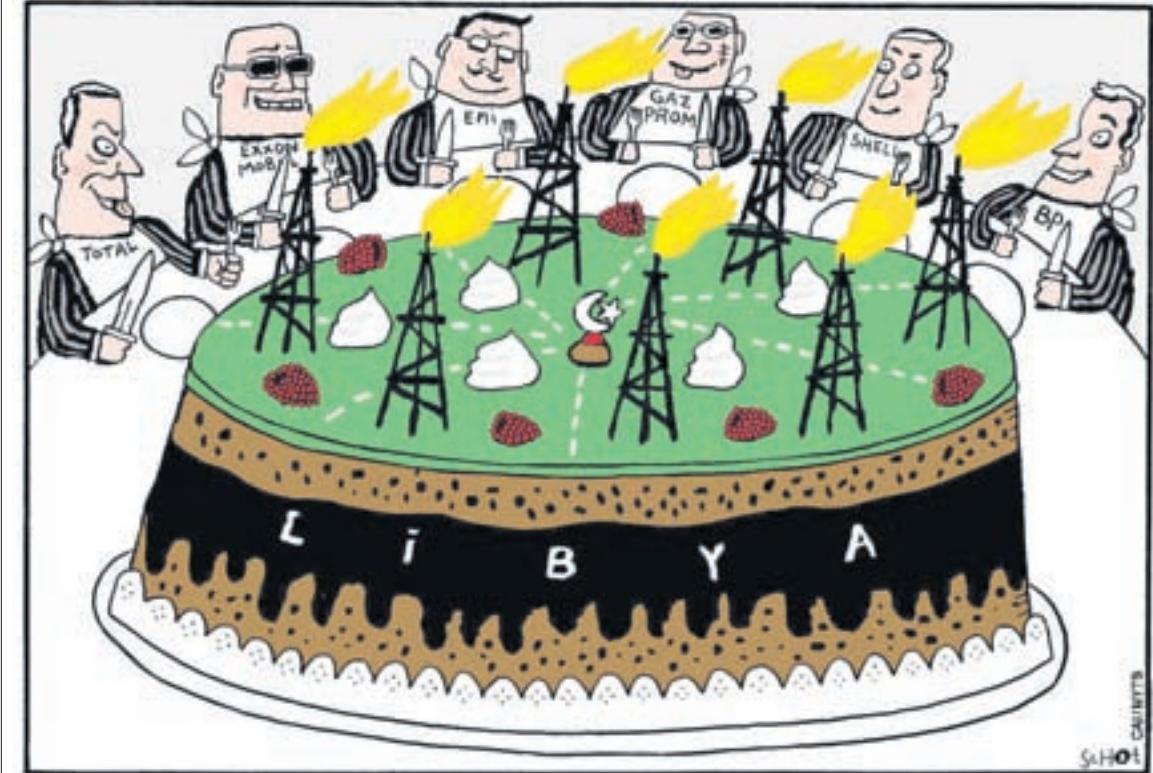
Second, instead of emphasizing the severity of the recession, the White House offered sunny – and, as it turned out, wildly mistaken – projections about how swiftly the stimulus would bring down the unemployment rate.

Even once it became clear that the recovery wasn't happening nearly as quickly as promised, the administration stuck to its Pollyannaish script, sending the president and the vice president out on an embarrassing "recovery summer" tour in 2010 and repeatedly projecting economic growth that failed to materialize.

Finally, instead of pivoting from the Recovery Act to deficits and entitlement reform, the Democratic majority spent all of its post-stimulus political capital trying to push both a costly new health care entitlement and a cap-and-trade bill through Congress. Both policies were advertised, intermittently, as deficit reduction, but neither came close to addressing the real long-term drivers of the nation's debt.

And they left congressional Democrats to campaign for re-election in 2010 as the custodians of record deficits as well as sky-high unemployment.

Now, nearly three years after Rivlin's warnings went unheeded, Obama has groped his way to an agenda that looks more like what she originally recommended. His speech to Congress last week suggested that he intends to campaign for re-election on what should have been the blueprint for his first four years in office: a short-term stimulus highlighted by a payroll tax cut, a medium-term push to overhaul the tax code and a plan for long-term entitlement reform. □



An impeccable disaster



PAUL KRUGMAN

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On Thursday Jean-Claude Trichet, the president of the European Central Bank or ECB – Europe's equivalent to Ben Bernanke – lost his sangfroid. In response to a question about whether the ECB is becoming a "bad bank" thanks to its purchases of troubled nations' debt, Trichet, his voice rising, insisted that his institution has performed "impeccably, impeccably!" as a guardian of price stability. Indeed it has. And that's why the euro is now at risk of collapse. Financial turmoil in Europe is no longer a problem of small, peripheral economies like Greece. What's under way right now is a full-scale market run on the much larger economies of Spain and Italy. At this point countries in crisis account for about a third of the euro area's GDP, so the common European currency itself is under existential threat. And all indications are that European leaders are unwilling even to acknowledge the nature of that threat, let alone deal with it effectively.

I've complained a lot about the "fiscalization" of economic discourse here in America, the way in which a premature focus on budget deficits turned Washington's attention away from the ongoing jobs

disaster. But we're not unique in that respect, and in fact the Europeans have been much, much worse. Listen to many European leaders – especially, but by no means only, the Germans – and you'd think that their continent's troubles are a simple morality tale of debt and punishment: Governments borrowed too much, now they're paying the price, and fiscal austerity is the only answer. Yet this story applies, if at all, to Greece and nobody else. Spain in particular had a budget surplus and low debt before the 2008 financial crisis; its fiscal record, one might say, was impeccable. And while it was hit hard by the collapse of its housing boom, it's still a relatively low-debt country, and it's hard to make the case that the underlying fiscal condition of Spain's government is worse than that of, say Britain's government. So why is Spain – along with Italy, which has higher debt but smaller deficits – in so much trouble? The answer is that these countries are facing something very much like a bank run, except that the run is on their governments rather than, or more accurately as well as, their financial institutions. Here's how such a run works: Investors, for whatever reason, fear that a country will default on its debt. This makes them unwilling to buy the country's bonds, or at least not unless offered a very high interest rate. And the fact that the country must roll its debt over at high interest rates worsens its fiscal prospects, making default more likely, so that the crisis of confidence becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. And as it does, it becomes a banking crisis as well, since a country's banks

are normally heavily invested in government debt. Now, a country with its own currency, like Britain, can short-circuit this process: If necessary, the Bank of England can step in to buy government debt with newly created money. This might lead to inflation (although even that is doubtful when the economy is depressed); but inflation poses a much smaller threat to investors than outright default. Spain and Italy, however, have adopted the euro and no longer have their own currencies. As a result, the threat of a self-fulfilling crisis is very real – and interest rates on Spanish and Italian debt are more than twice the rate on British debt. Which brings us back to the impeccable ECB. What Trichet and his colleagues should be doing right now is buying up Spanish and Italian debt – that is, doing what these countries would be doing for themselves if they still had their own currencies. In fact, the ECB started doing just that a few weeks ago, and produced a temporary respite for those nations. But the ECB immediately found itself under severe pressure from the moralizers, who hate the idea of letting countries off the hook for their alleged fiscal sins. And the perception that the moralizers will block any further rescue actions has set off a renewed market panic. Adding to the problem is the ECB's obsession with maintaining its "impeccable" record on price stability: At a time when Europe desperately needs a strong recovery, and modest inflation would actually be helpful, the bank has instead been tightening money, trying to head off inflation risks that exist only in its imagination. □



Models wear designs by Wes Gordon at the designer's Spring Summer 2012 presentation during Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York.

(Evan Sung/The New York Times)

Spring's colorful runways visit quiet New York City

CATHY HORYN

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NEW YORK – There seems no escape from the orgy of prints and color consuming the runways.

It continued Tuesday at Rodarte and Vera Wang, with runny floral patterns. It struck Monday with ice-cream pastels at Preen, tribal prints at Donna Karan and blazing red at Ohne Titel, where the prints resembled childish track marks. Maria Cornejo's prints looked like something exploded in the kitchen; they were in fact digitalized blowups of Bolivian and African artifacts. Americans don't know when to quit, but that's not the problem here.

Because all this intensity began a year ago in Europe with the super-saturated colors at Jil Sander, the monkey business at Prada and the neon lace from Christopher Kane, it will, in all likelihood, end there. That should be proof of their game-controlling superiority: they start a contagion and supply the antidote.

It's funny, though. Americans have been masters of color, from Warner Brothers to Warhol. Even if designers don't care for the brightness of animated cartoons, there is, as the late film critic Manny Farber noted, the equally important quality of

gentleness that was mixed into the gags, particularly those of Chuck Jones.

That may be a tall order for fashion designers, who more often than not prefer the highfalutin to the familiar. But if you look at many of the prints that have appeared this week and the way they were handled, you don't find that human dimension of wit and vulnerability. They don't make you smile.

Karan, who has been making trips to Haiti this year, said in her show notes that the tribal prints used for stretch cotton dresses and linen skirts were inspired by work of the Haitian artist Philippe Dodard. Mainly in browns and faded black, with burnt orange and violet, the motifs had a rough quality that suited Karan's urban aesthetic.

Anyway, they didn't come across as souvenir bric-a-brac – well, maybe a little. She was smart to offer designs that could stand on their own, among them body-hugging dresses in colorful pleated silk jersey. She showed a number of mask- and leaf-printed separates, in her sophisticated style, but the most uplifting pieces were the pinwheel skirts in linen and cotton. In recent seasons, Karan has gotten a little carried away

with the drapery and the swoony glamour, maybe out of sheer boredom. This time, she found a natural outlet for her passions.

Spring is shaping up as another big dress season. Aside from below-the-knee lengths, the change is asymmetry and volume; the soft lantern shapes at Ohne Titel were in that vein. Maria Cornejo opened with a cropped off-white jacket shrugged over a hot yellow stretch dress, a combination that looks fresh. She said she also wanted to "toughen up" her summer clothes a bit. One way she did that was to drape a graphic print over a bright orange dress and run a belt through folds.

Tory Burch's first runway show was a sober, merchandised view of French loveliness, with crocheted Bermudas mixed with jersey stripes, gussied up tweed, peony prints and chiffon evening dresses hitched to the shoulder with ties. You don't expect Burch ever to do anything that isn't polished, but sometimes you wish she would.

Beyoncé, decked out in a fitted jacket and a Tudor-style romper in cream chiffon from Vera Wang's spring collection, made her entrance just before the lights went up. □



A model presents designs by Zac Posen at the line's show during Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York. Fashion week, which opened on Sept. 8, will continue through Sept. 15.

(Richard Termine/The New York Times)



A model presents designs by Tommy Hilfiger at the line's show during Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York, on Sept. 11, 2011. Fashion week, which opened on Sept. 8, will continue through Sept. 15.

(Valerio Mezzanotti/The New York Times)